2022

THE RISE OF HATE CRIMES AND TARGETED VIOLENCE IN THE US

AN ANALYSIS OF THE CHRISTCHURCH AND BUFFALO SHOOTER'S MANIFESTOS

THE COUNTERTERRORISM GROUP.

MAKING SENSE OF TODAY'S TOMORROW

THE COUNTERTERRORISM GROUP.

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ABOUT THE COUNTERTERRORISM GROUP

The Counterterrorism Group (CTG) is a unit of Paladin 7, the global risk consultancy and security firm. CTG proactively searches for and analyzes the threat of terrorism from international terrorist organizations, domestic terrorist organizations, and individuals determined to inflict terror upon societies, organizations, and individuals. Our global and national security professionals set up protective measures to examine, prevent, discourage, and dissuade any terrorist organization or individual from carrying out attacks. We want to protect our clients from any terrorist threat or attack. We also work proactively with the proper authorities to find those in terrorist organizations and individuals who will cause harm by mitigating threats and assisting authorities in bringing them to justice.

CTG assists in setting up the right systems, tactics, techniques, and personnel to effectively detect, deter, and defeat terrorist attacks. Our organization works to understand the threats posed and tactics used, as well as the individuals and organizations participating in terrorism, to develop and implement systems, strategies, plans, and solutions that prevent and counter actors and attacks. We work to ultimately defeat terrorist organizations and individuals who want to inflict terror. CTG has the capabilities to provide intelligence analysis, counterterrorism training, protection and security teams, and other unique solutions to the threats of today.

ABOUT THE
THE NORTHCOM AND SOUTHCOM TEAMS

CTG's North and South America Command Teams (NORTHCOM and SOUTHCOM) focus on analyzing the threats and attacks occurring in their regions. NORTHCOM and SOUTHCOM have capabilities and experience in analyzing security issues such as national terrorism, white supremacism, hate crimes, shootings, and cartel activities, among others. Both teams have linguistically and culturally diverse analysts utilizing intelligence, life experiences, and academic knowledge. This document is aimed at helping the US law enforcement agencies detect, deter, and defeat hate-crime motivated shootings in the US by analyzing and comparing Brenton Tarrant's and Payton Gendron's manifestos.

For this report, NORTHCOM and SOUTHCOM have collaborated with the CTG Open Source Intelligence (OSINT) Team, which has provided further research on specific topics. Parts of the manifestos and other sensitive materials have been provided in the document for analytical purposes. If you would like to review these materials for further research, please contact info@counterterrorismgroup.com from an official organization-affiliated email address. This report was compiled in June 2022, and as of then, all facts are accurate.

SINCERELY,
STACEY CASAS, SOUTHCOM TEAM LEAD
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TABLE OF CONTENTS

ANALYSTS....3
ABOUT....4
THE COUNTERTERRORISM GROUP (CTG)....4
THE NORTHCOM AND SOUTHCOM TEAMS....5
US INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY DIRECTIVE (ICD) 203....8
THREAT LEVEL....9
INTRODUCTION....10
HISTORICAL INVOLVEMENT & OVERVIEW....11
SHOOTER PROFILES....13
BRENTON TARRANT....14
PAYTON GENDRON....18
TIMELINE OF KEY EVENTS....21
BRENTON TARRANT: CHRISTCHURCH ATTACK PLANNING PHASE AND TIMELINE....23
PLANNING PHASE....23
ATTACK TIMELINE....24
PAYTON GENDRON: BUFFALO ATTACK PLANNING PHASE AND TIMELINE....26
PLANNING PHASE....26
ATTACK TIMELINE....27
IDOLIZATION AND INFLUENCERS....29
GENDRON'S INFLUENCERS....31
INFLUENCERS OF BOTH GENDRON AND TARRANT....34
MANIFESTOS' SIMILARITIES AND DIFFERENCES....37
MANIFESTOS' THEMATIC ANALYSIS....41
GENERAL IMPLICATIONS AND ANALYSIS....46
COPYCAT EFFECT....50
GAMIFICATION....54

TABLE OF CONTENTS

WEAPONS ANALYSIS....56
SUMMARY....57
SUMMARY OF THE GUNS USED BY TARRANT AND GENDRON....57
ILLEGAL MODIFICATION OF FIREARMS AND LOOPHOLES TO GUN LEGISLATION....61
SUMMARY OF THE MODIFICATIONS DONE BY GENDRON....62
INTRODUCTION TO THE NEW YORK STATE GUN LEGISLATION....63
LOOPHOLES....64
LOOPHOLE ONE: FLEA MARKETS AND GUN SHOWS....64
LOOPHOLE TWO: THE INTERNET....66
DIFFERENCES IN GUN LEGISLATION ACROSS THE US....68
INTRODUCTION TO GUN LEGISLATION IN PENNSYLVANIA....68
GUN LEGISLATION IN THE US BY STATE....70
IMPLICATIONS OF THE DIFFERENCES IN GUN LEGISLATION ACROSS THE US....71
THE USE OF RELATIVE'S FIREARMS IN SHOOTINGS....72
OBTENTION OF FIREARMS FROM RELATIVES....72
RECOMMENDATIONS....74
COLLABORATION ACROSS GOVERNMENT AGENCIES AND INTELLIGENCE COMPANIES....74
INCREASED SURVEILLANCE IN POTENTIAL TARGETED PLACES AND REDUCING THE HATE TOWARDS MINORITY COMMUNITIES....77
TRACKING POTENTIAL SHOOTERS' ACQUISITION OF GUN PRODUCTS....78
REFERENCES....79

US INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY DIRECTIVE (ICD) 203

The US ICD 203 framework identifies the likelihood of a threat or attack occurring, such as a mass shooting incident, measured by indicators analyzed by CTG analysts and experts. The threat scale from the ICD 203 framework is classified into percentages of likelihood that are listed from Very Unlikely to Almost Certain(ly). Under the Intelligence Community Directive, the ICD 203 Analytical Standards “are the core principles of intelligence analysis and are to be applied in each analytic product in a manner appropriate to its purpose, the type of scope of its underlying source information, its production timeline, and its customers.” ICD 203 is used throughout the intelligence community and US government and defense agencies.

VERY UNLIKELY
0-20%

UNLIKELY
20-45%

ROUGHLY EVEN CHANCE
45-55%

LIKELY
55-80%

VERY LIKELY
80-95%

ALMOST CERTAIN(LY)
95-99%

THREAT LEVEL

Upon completion of our research into the mass shootings by Brenton Tarrant and Payton Gendron, our team of analysts and experts have concluded that social media platforms, private chatrooms, manifestos, and many other factors are aiding in the spread of ideological beliefs and encouraging others to commit violent acts of domestic terrorism against specific groups of people. Minority communities, in particular, are often targets of domestic terrorism in the US due to a rising culture of antisemitic white supremacists who believe these groups are “replacing” the white race. An increase in extremist beliefs is contributing to rising hate crimes around the US. This combined with the access to weaponry and other radicalized individuals via the internet indicates the threat level of the likelihood of another mass shooting occurring in the US is **Very Likely.**

INTRODUCTION

This report analyzes the manifestos written by the shooters Brenton Tarrant and Payton Gendron. Mass shootings in the US have been rising in recent months, particularly after the mass shooting at the Tops Supermarket in Buffalo, New York (NY), by Gendron on May 14, 2022. This shooter was inspired by Tarrant, the perpetrator of the Christchurch shooting in New Zealand that killed 51 and injured 40. Gendron used Tarrant's attack and manifesto to prepare and perpetuate a mass shooting targeting people of color. Both shootings aimed to take partisan action against an occupying force, as established in both manifestos. While Tarrant's target was Muslim "invaders," Gendron planned his attack according to his hatred of the black community. As of June 18, there have been 270 mass shootings throughout 2022 in the US, according to Gun Violence Archive, which follows the Congressional Research mass shooting definition as there being four or more victims. (1)

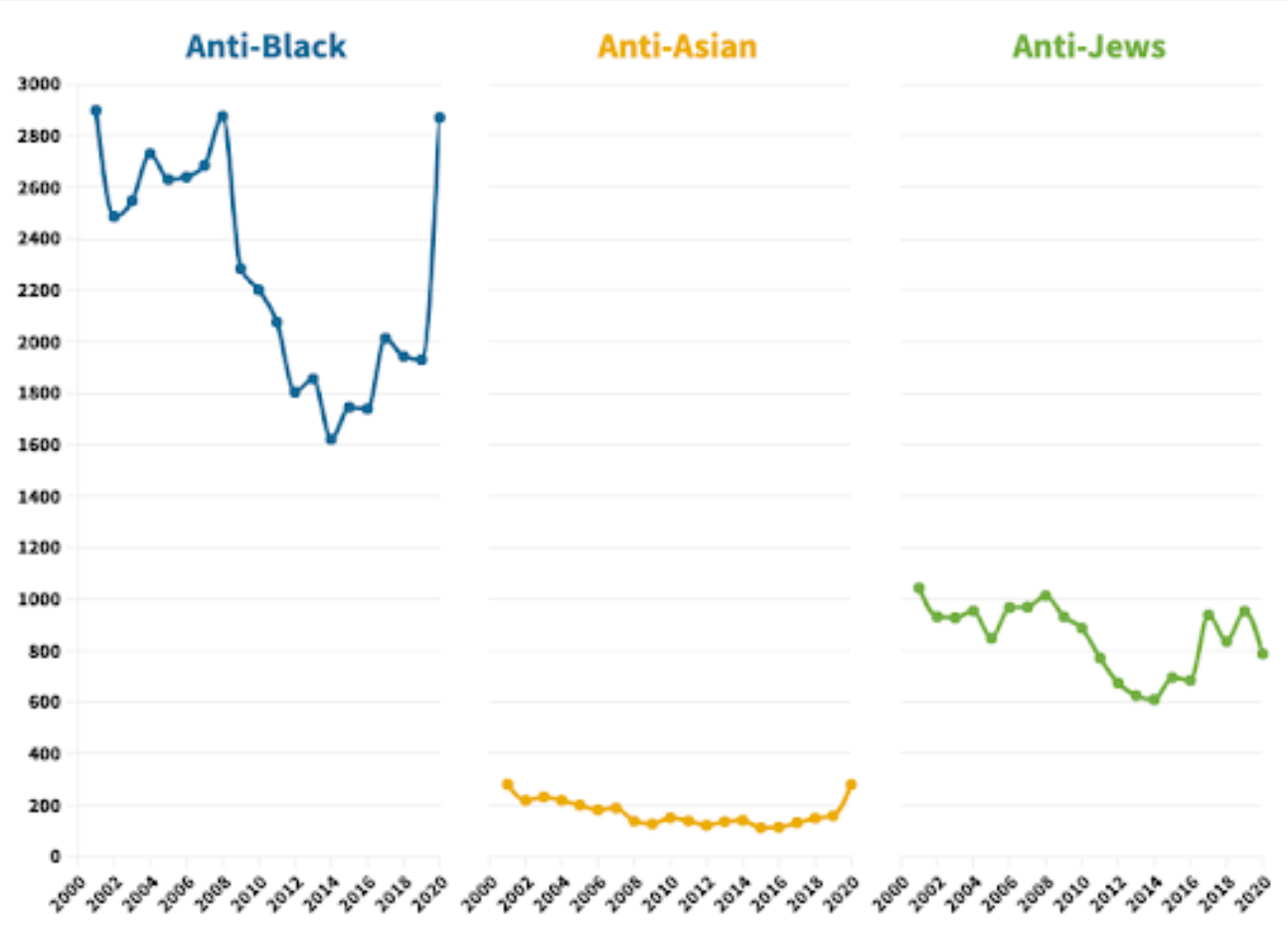
Some radicalized groups and individuals idolize mass shooters, such as Tarrant and Gendron, through less monitored social media platforms and align with their extreme ideologies. Often, extremist individuals seek a sense of community that radicalized groups can offer through online means, which further enhances the idolization of these extremists who act on their beliefs and incite the potential for copycat attacks. Trend analysis indicates mass shootings targeting ethnic and racial minorities will **Very Likely** continue to increase in the US.

HISTORICAL INVOLVEMENT & OVERVIEW

According to The United States Department of Justice (DOJ), a hate crime is a "crime motivated by bias against race, color, religion, national origin, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, or disability." (2) The number of hate crimes from 2010 to 2016 involving firearms reached 56,000. Brady, an American gun violence prevention group, stated African Americans, Latinos, and Jewish communities are the most targeted communities in the US. In 2018, nearly half of the reported race/ethnicity/ancestry hate crimes targeted the black community, whereas the number targeting the Latin community increased by 21%. (3) Hate crime rates are at the highest level in over a decade, with people of color being most impacted, as shown in the following graph: **Incidents of hate crimes (4)**

According to Brady, hate crimes become more deadly when firearms are involved. (5) In August 2019, a far-right gunman, Patrick Crusius, killed 23 Latinos and injured 23 others in a Walmart in El Paso, Texas. This shooting was based on the white supremacist and racist Great Replacement conspiracy theory, which establishes that the white European populations are being demographically and culturally replaced with non-white populations through mass migration. The shooter also posted a manifesto on the 8chan website, mentioning Tarrant's Christchurch Mosque shooting in New Zealand. (6) The Buffalo shooter, Payton Gendron, produced the most recent white supremacist manifesto, stating his influence on the Great Replacement Theory, raising the number of hate crimes and firearm-related incidents in the US.

Alternatively, shootings in the US are also targeting educational institutions. According to the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), almost 21% of US shootings from 2000 to 2018 targeted educational institutions. Most shooters targeting schools are current or former students of the educational institutions they target. (7) The latest school shooting occurred on May 24, 2022, in Uvalde, Texas, where an 18-year-old entered the Robb Elementary School and killed 19 students and two teachers. (8)



INCIDENTS OF HATE CRIMES (4)

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SHOOTER PROFILES

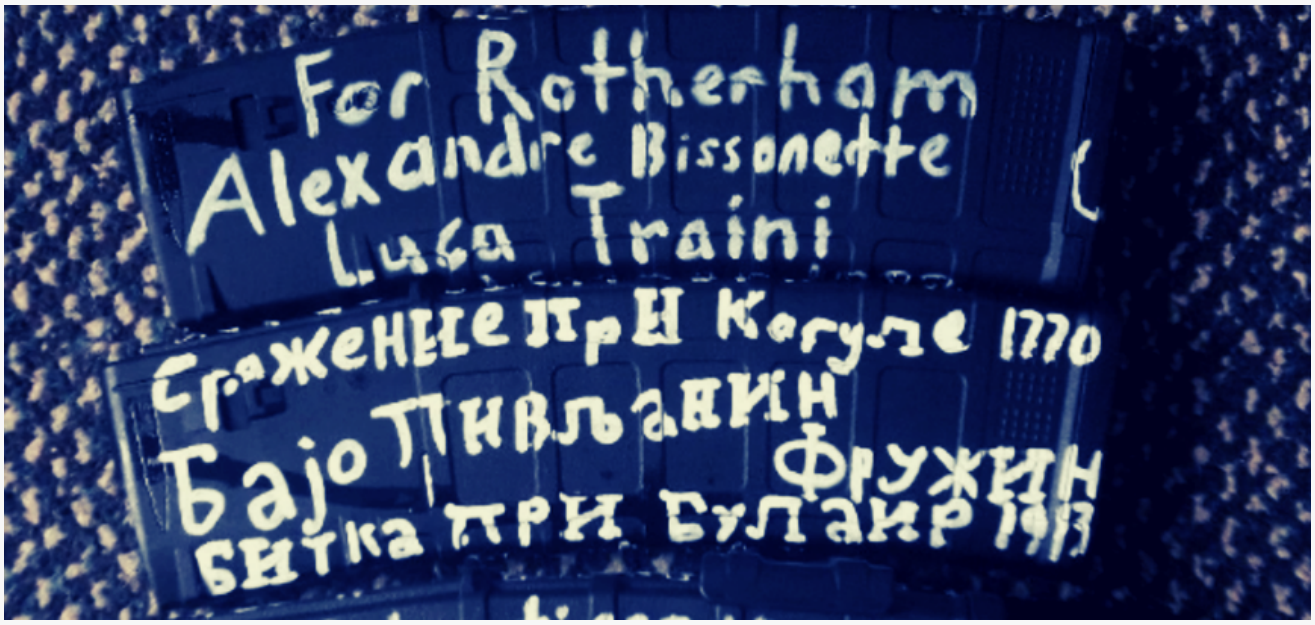
BRENTON TARRANT

Shooter	Brenton Tarrant
Age at Attack	28 years old
Day of Action	3/15/19
Killed	51

Injured	40
Occupation	Personal Trainer
Motivation	Retaliation for white demographic replacement, hatred of invaders
Manifesto	The Great Replacement
Notable Actions	• The first attack of its kind. By live streaming and broadcasting his action to the world, he brought us along for the ride and made a personal connection with all of us. He inspired many disciples to follow in his footsteps and keep the momentum going. • Attempting to popularize accelerationism as a worldview by trying to show that violence is the only way to pursue political goals. • Using “coded meme language” to troll and confuse journalists and anti-terrorist NGOs.
Locations	Al Noor Islamic Center and Linwood Mosque, Christ Church, New Zealand
Targets	Muslim community

Weapons	Two AR-15s, .222: Mossberg 930 Semi-automatic shotgun, 12-gauge: Ranger 870 Pump-Action Shotgun, 12-Gauge: Uberti Lever-Action Rifle, .357 Magnum, Mossberg Predatory, .223
Status	Living; Life Imprisonment without the possibility of parole
Brief Explanation of the Day of Attack	• Live streamed mass shooting at the Al Noor Mosque in Christchurch NZ, then proceeded to a second mosque in Linwood. • Apprehended by police en route to a third mosque. • In total, 51 targets were killed and 40 injured. • Tarrant used a variety of weapons, even IEDs and gasoline (for burning down the mosques) were discovered in his vehicle afterward.

Outcome	• The system reacted as Tarrant predicted in his manifesto - the left pushed for more gun control. The political and racial divides deepened, and the gradual slow-moving collapse accelerated greatly. The system went to unprecedented lengths to scrub his legacy from the internet, worrying that others with similar ideologies would see this as a call to action. Several countries even jailed people for downloading, reposting, or sharing the video. • Their efforts failed - his manifesto and live stream were archived by accelerationists across the globe, and they'll forever serve as a potent source of inspiration.



TARRANT'S MAGAZINES COVERED WITH WHITE SUPREMACIST MESSAGES (76)

PAYTON GENDRON

Shooter	Payton Gendron
Age at Attack	18 years old
Day of Action	5/14/22
Killed	10

Injured	3
Occupation	Student (Engineering Major at SUNY)
Motivation	Beliefs based on “The Great Replacement Theory” / Inspire others to act
Manifesto/Affiliation	“You Wait For A Signal While Your People Wait For You”Tarrant’s 5th Disciple; NS Accelerationist
Notable Actions	Livestream; sparing a white shopper and apologizing for almost shooting him
Locations	Tops Friendly Market, Buffalo, NY, USA
Targets	Local African American population
Weapons	Bushmaster XM-15 E2S Target Rifle
Status	Living; Jail

Brief Explanation of the Day of Attack	• Gendron began his day driving 4 hours to his target location. • Began live streaming a few minutes before arrival. • At approximately 1430 local time (EST), Gendron exited his vehicle and immediately opened fire.

GENDRON'S BUSHMASTER XM-15 COVERED WITH WHITE SUPREMACIST MESSAGES (77)

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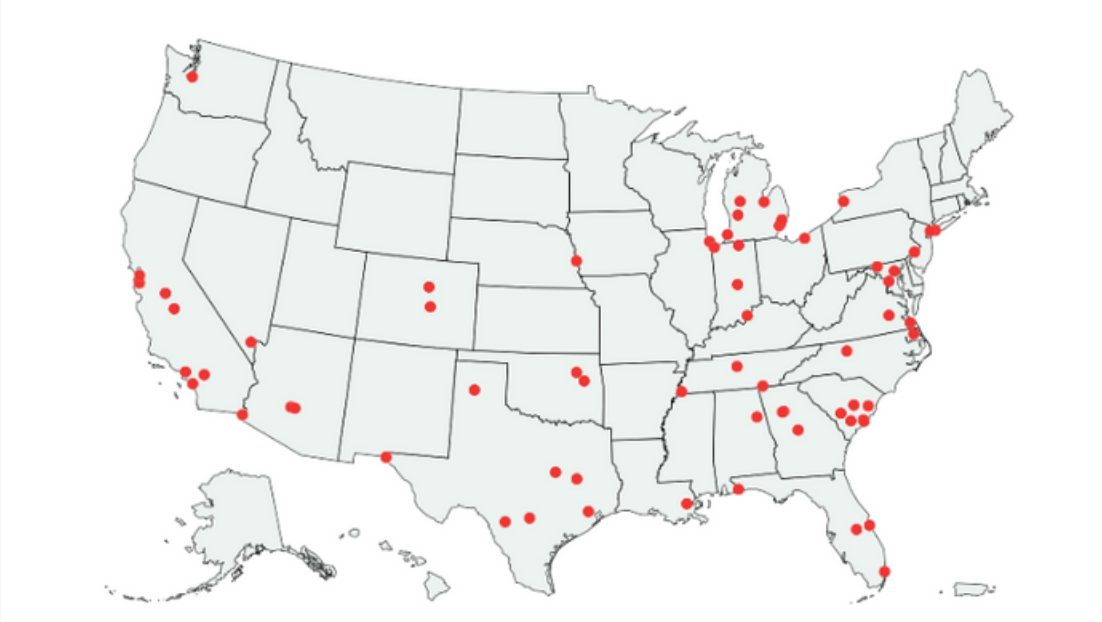
TIMELINE OF KEY EVENTS

SINCE THE BUFFALO SHOOTING ON MAY 14, 2022, OVER 80 MASS SHOOTINGS HAVE OCCURRED THROUGHOUT THE US. BELOW IS A MAP WITH EACH OF THE SHOOTINGS BY STATE:



Map with the shootings that occurred after Buffalo as of June 21, 2022 (9)

THE SECOND MAP BELOW DOCUMENTS ALL SHOOTINGS WITHIN THE US SINCE THE BEGINNING OF 2022:

Map of Mass Shootings in the US in 2022 as of June 21, 2022 (10)

BRENTON TARRANT: CHRISTCHURCH ATTACK PLANNING PHASE

1. Two years leading up to the attack: Tarrant planned the attack for close to two years in which he considered other locations and potential targets before settling on eventual targets, Al Noor and Linwood Mosques. New Zealand was not the original location until Tarrant moved there in 2017 and joined a gun club that trained on various firearms.
2. Three months leading up to the attack: Tarrant took three months in Christchurch to prepare for the attack. He originally planned to hit a mosque in Dunedin, where his gun club was located, until he visited the other mosques and acknowledged the conversion of a church into a mosque. Due to large crowds of worshippers, Tarrant decided to carry out the attack on a Friday. Additionally, both mosques had easy access and vehicular escape options.
3. A few weeks before the attack: He used social media to convey his message, ideology, and motives to heighten the effect of the attack and influence others. He opened a Twitter account and posted 63 racist tweets.
4. A few days before the attack: Tarrant posted photos of his vest, guns, and ammunition to the previously mentioned Twitter account. (11)

BRENTON TARRANT: CHRISTCHURCH ATTACK ATTACK TIMELINE

1. Friday, March 15, 2019: Day of Shooting
    a. 10 minutes before the attack: Tarrant posted the links to his manifesto on social media, specifically on Twitter, Facebook, /pol/, and 8chan. Tarrant also told followers how to watch and follow his attacks, posting the video clip to Reddit, YouTube, LiveLeak, BitChut, and Kiwifarms.
    b. 1334 Local Time: During Friday prayers at the mosques, Tarrant activated a GoPro he installed on his helmet. He switched to Facebook Live and announced, “Let’s get this party started,” headed towards the Al Noor mosque in his car, and began his attack. Tarrants’ car was loaded with firearms (two semi-automatic weapons, two shotguns, and one lever-action firearm), all purchased legally with a gun license obtained in 2017. He also had two improved IEDs in his car.
    c. Approximately 1340 Local Time: Tarrant parked his car close to the mosque and took one of his weapons, specifically, his Mossberg 930 semi-automatic 12 gauge shotgun, as he stormed in and immediately began shooting indiscriminately. Someone attempted to stop him but was shot and killed.
    d. 1342 Local Time: Police were notified. Tarrant returned to his car, switched weapons to his Windham Weaponry 223 caliber MSSA rifle, loaded up on ammunition, and returned to ensure he had killed those he wounded. He additionally used a Ruger AR-15 223 caliber MSSA rifle during the attack. When he finished, he shot at bystanders and worshippers who managed to escape. In around six minutes, Tarrant killed 42 victims. By this time, police had already arrived at the mosque. But Tarrant was on his way to the second target: Linwood Islamic Center. On his way there, he shot at people who looked Muslim to him.
    e. 1355 Local Time: When Tarrant arrived, he started shooting at people standing outside the building and then shot through the windows. After killing seven victims and wounded others, he returned to his car to switch weapons and reload. Tarrant left the scene because a worshiper chased him and picked up one of his weapons, and smashed his windshield.
    f. 1420 Local Time: 40 minutes after he fired his first shot, he was on his way to a third mosque, but his car was blocked by a New Zealand Police vehicle, and he was captured and arrested. (12)

SAINT
BRENTON TARRANT
KILLED: 51, INJURED: 40, DAY OF ACTION: 3/15/19
10/27/90 - X/XX/XX
>>BIOGRAPHY
BORN: BRENTON HARRISON TARRANT
OCCUPATION: PERSONAL TRAINER
MOTIVATIONS: RETALIATION FOR WHITE DEMOGRAPHIC REPLACEMENT, HATRED OF INVADERS
MANIFESTO: THE GREAT REPLACEMENT
>>OTHER
NOTABLE ACTION: THE FIRST ATTACK OF ITS KIND. BY LIVESTREAMING AND BROADCASTING HIS ACTION TO THE WORLD, HE BROUGHT US ALONG FOR THE RIDE AND MADE A PERSONAL CONNECTION WITH ALL OF US. HE INSPIRED MANY DISCIPLES TO FOLLOW IN HIS FOOTSTEPS AND KEEP THE MOMENTUM GOING.
NOTABLE ACTION: POPULARIZING ACCELERATIONISM AS A WORLDVIEW
NOTABLE ACTION: USING "CODED MEME LANGUAGE" TO TROLL AND CONFUSE JOURNALISTS AND ANTI-TERROR NGOs.
>>STATS
LOCATIONS: AL NOOR ISLAMIC CENTER AND LINWOOD MOSQUE, CHRISTCHURCH, NEW ZEALAND
TARGETS: MUSLIM INVADERS
KILLED: 51
INJURED: 40
WEAPONS: TWO AR-15s, .223; MOSSBERG 930 SEMI-AUTOMATIC SHOTGUN, 12-GAUGE; RANGER 870 PUMP-ACTION SHOTGUN, 12-GAUGE; UBERTI LEVER-ACTION RIFLE, .357 MAGNUM; MOSSBERG PREDATOR, .223
STATUS: LIFE IMPRISONMENT WITHOUT THE POSSIBILITY OF PAROLE
>>OTHER
NOTABLE QUOTE:
"IT'S THE BIRTHRATES. IT'S THE BIRTHRATES. IT'S THE BIRTHRATES."
NOTABLE ACTION: USING A SYNTHESIS OF LIVESTREAMING AND SOCIAL MEDIA TO ENSURE THE ACTION OF HIS DISCPLES.
>>DAY OF ACTION:
3/15/2019 - THE CHRISTCHURCH MOSQUE SHOOTINGS:
LIVESTREAMED MASS SHOOTING AT THE AL NOOR MOSQUE IN CHRISTCHURCH NZ, THEN PROCEEDED TO A 2ND MOSQUE IN LINWOOD. APPREHENDED BY POLICE EN ROUTE TO A 3RD MOSQUE. IN TOTAL, 51 TARGETS KILLED AND 40 INJURED.
TARRANT USED A VARIETY OF WEAPONS, EVEN IEDS AND GASOLINE (FOR BURNING DOWN THE MOSQUES) WERE DISCOVERED IN HIS VEHICLE AFTERWARD.
A GREATER DESCRIPTION OF HIS ACTIONS WOULD BE NOTHING TO SIMPLY SEEING THEM YOURSELF, CHECK "FURTHER READING".
>>OUTCOME
THE SYSTEM REACTED EXACTLY AS TARRANT PREDICTED IN HIS MANIFESTO - THE RABID LEFT PUSHED FOR MORE GUN CONTROL, THE POLITICAL AND RACIAL DIVIDES DEEPENED AND THE GRADUAL, SLOW-MOVING COLLAPSE HAS ACCELERATED GREATLY.
THE SYSTEM WENT TO UNPRECEDENTED LENGTHS TO SCRUB HIS LEGACY FROM THE INTERNET, TERRIFIED THAT OTHER WHITES WOULD HEED HIS CALL TO ACTION, WITH SEVERAL COUNTRIES EVEN JAILING PEOPLE FOR DOWNLOADING, REPOSTING OR SHARING THE VIDEO.
THEIR EFFORTS FAILED OF COURSE - HIS MANIFESTO AND LIVESTREAM WERE ARCHIVED BY ACCELERATIONISTS ACROSS THE GLOBE AND THEY'LL FOREVER SERVE AS A POTENT SOURCE OF INSPIRATION.
LOYAL DISCIPLES
EARNEST
CRUSIUS
MANSHAUS
BALLIET
DEAD
INVADERS
"REMEMBER LADS, SUBSCRIBE TO PEWDIEPIE"
"WHY DOESN'T SOMEBODY DO SOMETHING? WHY DON'T I DO SOMETHING?"
The Great Replacement
FURTHER READING:
THE GREAT REPLACEMENT PDF: t.me/FileArchive_StCal/105
TARRANT'S SOUNDTRACK: t.me/FileArchive_StCal/108
BRENTON TARRANT PLEADS GUILTY: t.me/FileArchive_StCal/114
FOOTAGE OF SENTENCING: t.me/FileArchive_StCal/116
DETAILS OUTLINED IN COURT: t.me/FileArchive_StCal/115
THE GREAT REPLACEMENT AUDIOBOOK: t.me/FileArchive_StCal/107
LIVESTREAM: t.me/FileArchive_StCal/120
LIFE: t.me/FileArchive_StCal/119
PHOTOS OF TARANT'S HOME: archive.is/bWAs
DELIVERY OF LIFE SENTENCE: t.me/FileArchive_StCal/117
HOW SAINT TARRANT SPENT HIS FINAL MONTHS BEFORE ACTION: archive.is/frFRW
HAIL THE SAINTS!
卐
T.ME/SAINTCALENDAR

TARRANT DAYS OF ACTION SAINT CALENDAR (13)

PAYTON GENDRON: BUFFALO ATTACK PLANNING PHASE

1. Early 2020: During the Covid-19 pandemic shutdown, Gendron searched for discussions of guns and politics on 4chan and 8chan. These forums introduced Gendron to antisemitic and racist ideologies and caused him to seek out other internet sites, such as Reddit, YouTube, and Facebook, with similar hate themes.
2. June 2021: Gendron made a threat at a nearby high school and was released after being brought in for a mental health evaluation. The threat was said not to be targeted or racial but general.
3. January 2022: According to his manifesto, Gendron began to plan the attack after buying military gear and ammunition and practicing shooting for years. Gendron bought a Bushmaster assault weapon around this time.
4. Tuesday, March 8, 2022: Gendron carried out a reconnaissance trip and drove over 200 miles from his hometown of Conklin to Buffalo. Gendron chose this zip code because research indicated that it had a high demographic of people of color. During this trip, he was questioned by a "Black armed security officer" who asked Gendron what he was doing in and out of the store. Gendron told the security officer he was collecting "census data." This trip was taken to gather intelligence to understand the layout of the establishment and security protocols. He had a sketch/schematic of the store layout per his manifesto. Every two hours, Gendron wrote about the activity of "Black and White people in the market."
5. Several days before the shooting: Gendron posted his manifesto on Facebook and timed the document to go public in the moments before the shooting. (14)

PAYTON GENDRON: BUFFALO ATTACK

ATTACK TIMELINE

1. Friday, May 13, 2022: Traveled to Buffalo, NY. The attack was supposed to be carried out at 1600 local time on a Friday, but for unknown reasons, the attack was carried out on Saturday instead. We are left to believe that Saturday may have been busier due to lack of school or work for most people. The intended time of the attack on Friday was due to an anticipated crowded, busy store within the neighborhood he targeted.
2. Saturday, May 14, 2022: Day of Shooting
    a. 1430 Local Time: Livestreamed the shooting through a GoPro on his helmet. Before getting out of his car, you hear him say, “just gotta go for it, right? It’s the end right here. I’m going in.” Four people were shot in the parking lot, and nine others were shot inside the store. In total, 10 people were killed in the shooting, and three were injured.
    b. 1432 Local Time: Walked out of the store and just stood there as if he was waiting for the police to shoot him. He removed his gear, including the body armor and military-grade helmet he was wearing. He was taken into custody and placed in a police vehicle.
    c. Evening: Gendron was arraigned on a first-degree murder charge. (15)

HAIL THE SAINTS
SAINT
T.ME/DAYSOFACTION
PAYTON GENDRON
DAY OF ACTION: 5/14/2022
KILLED: 10, INJURED: 3
6/20/2003 -
BIO
NAME: Payton S. Gendron
BORN: 6/20/2003
AGE@ATTACK: 18
OCCUPATION: Student (Engineering mjr @ SUNY)
MOTIVATION: Hatred of niggers
AFFILIATION: Tarrant's 5th Disciple; NS Accelerationist
STATS
LOCATION: Tops Friendly Market, Buffalo, NY, USA
TARGETS: niggers
WEAPON: Bushmaster XM-15 E2S Target rifle
KILLED: 10
INJURED: 3
NOTABLE ACTIONS: Livestream; Sparing a White shopper + apologizing for almost shooting him
MANIFESTO: "You Wait For A Signal While Your People Wait For You"
STATUS: Jailed
DAY OF ACTION
Gendron began his big day driving 4hrs to his target location, + began live-streaming a few mins before arrival. At approx 2:30pm, Gendron exited his vehicle and immediately opened fire, killing his first 3 targets in the Tops Market parking lot. He proceeded inside the store and continued clearing the aisles. At one point, he encountered a White shopper and apologized for almost shooting him. A retired nigger cop working as armed security shot Gendron, but thanks to his armor, the pig's bullet didn't stop him. He returned fire, killing the pig. He engaged Buffalo police near the store entrance and was ultimately taken into custody. In total, he killed 10 (inc 1 pig) and injured 3.
TOPS
D E A D
N I G G E R S
FURTHER READING
MANIFESTO t.me/FileArchive5/664
DISCORD LOGS t.me/FileArchive5/667
>>VIDS
FULL LIVESTREAM t.me/FileArchive5/668
JUST THE GOOD PART t.me/FileArchive5/670
AFTERMATH (CELL PHONE) t.me/FileArchive5/666
>>ARTICLES
FAST FACTS archive.ph/njjvN
LINKED TO ONLINE HATE archive.ph/qdq7u
MEMRI DTTM archive.ph/CbPkY
RACIST MASS SHOOTING archive.ph/7rnHP
POSTED WS MANIFESTO archive.ph/aW20D
PREVIOUS THREATS archive.ph/oGTPz

GENDRON DAYS OF ACTION SAINT CALENDAR (16)

THE COUNTERTERRORISM GROUP.

IDOLIZATION AND INFLUENCERS

IDOLIZATION AND INFLUENCERS

Both Gendron and Tarrant idolized many of the same individuals, most of whom have extreme ideologies and/or conducted their own attacks. While both had multiple people who inspired them to conduct these attacks, they also named one person who radicalized them the most. For Gendron, this was Tarrant, particularly his manifesto and live stream of his attack. However, for Tarrant, the individual who inspired him the most is a conservative African-American female named Candace Owens, whose views are typical of an extreme right-wing ideology. She believes the biggest problem in America is white guilt, and her Youtube channel description is “Sick of the alt-left?" Welcome. I prescribe red pills.” (17) Tarrant wrote in his manifesto that her extreme views helped “push [him] further and further into the belief of violence over meekness.” (18) This was the only individual that Tarrant mentioned that Gendron did not.

In the manifestos, the question “Did/do you have ties to any other partisans/freedom fighters/ethno soldiers?” had very similar answers. Gendron included every single person from Tarrant’s answer and then some. Tarrant himself was included in Gendron's list, but he also added other attackers that Tarrant did not list, primarily due to the timeline of attacks, most of which were after Tarrant’s.

GENDRON'S INFLUENCERS

GENDRON HAD, BESIDES TARRANT, THE FOLLOWING INFLUENCES:

Name: Robert Bowers
Attack Location: Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, USA
Type of Location: Place of Worship - Synagogue
Target: Jewish Community
Date: October 27, 2018
Weapon(s): AR-15 and 3 Glock .357 handguns (19)
Injured: 7
Casualties: 11
Social Media Used Indicating Attack: Gab
Important Writings, Tactics, and Beliefs: Bowers open-fired at the Tree of Life Synagogue in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, resulting in 11 deaths and multiple injuries, including police officers. Bowers was highly active on the Gab platform before his account was taken down, claiming Jews must die and Jews are committing genocide against the white race. (20) Police officers have testified that Bowers said, "I had to do it, Jews are the children of Satan. They're murdering our children." (21)

Name: John Earnest
Attack Location: Poway, San Diego, California, USA
Type of Location: Place of Worship - Synagogue
Target: Jewish and Muslim Community
Date: April 27, 2019
Weapon(s): M&P 15 AR (AR-15 style semi-automatic rifle)
Injured: 3
Casualties: 1
Social Media Used Indicating Attack: 8chan, /pol/
Important Writings, Tactics, and Beliefs: Earnest open-fired at the Chabad of Poway synagogue in San Diego, California, in April 2019, resulting in three injuries and one casualty. Just a month earlier, in March 2019, he had set fire to the Dar-ul-Arqam Mosque in Escondido, California, without being apprehended. Like many others, he also wrote his own manifesto, which was very antisemtic-

focused. He stated, “Tarrant was a catalyst for me personally. He showed me that it could be done. And that it needed to be done.” (22) He also utilized extremely vulgar language and encouraged other radicalized individuals to burn and kill Jews as he aimed to do.

Name: Patrick Crusius
Attack Location: El Paso, Texas, USA
Type of Location: Shopping Center - Walmart
Target: Hispanic Community
Date: August 3, 2019
Weapon(s): AK-47
Injured: 23
Casualties: 23
Social Media Used Indicating Attack: 8chan, /pol/
Important Writings, Tactics, and Beliefs: Notably, Crusius traveled 11 hours to reach the destination of his attack, as Gendron traveled for hours as well. (23) Just before the attack, he posted a four-page manifesto on 8Chan, titled “The Inconvenient Truth,” warning of an “impending attack” and also using the terms “Hispanic invasion of Texas” and “replacers.” (24) The first sentence of his manifesto states his support for Tarrant’s attack. Similar to Gendron, he stated in his manifesto he did not target Hispanics until after he read Tarrants “The Great Replacement.” (25) Crusius said he prepared less than a month for this attack, wanting to act fast before he backs out, in which he states an under-prepared attack is better than no manifesto or no attack at all. (26)

Name: Philip Manshaus
Attack Location: Baeurum, Norway
Type of Location: Place of Worship - Mosque
Target: Racial and Religious Minorities
Date: August 10, 2019
Weapon(s): Carl Gustav rifle, .22 long rifle Remington Model 572 Fieldmaster, Baikal IJ-27E double-barreled shotgun (27)
Injured: 1 (Non-gun related)
Casualties: 1 (Prior to Attack)
Social Media Used Indicating Attack: Endchan

Important Writings, Tactics, and Beliefs: Before open-firing at the Al-Noor Islamic Centre, Manshaus shot and killed his adopted sister who was of Asian descent. He then drove to the mosque to kill as many as possible and set the mosque on fire. He did not hit anyone while shooting, and his weapon was tackled away from him by a bystander, who received minor injuries from fighting Manshaus. He claimed the white race was on the brink of extinction, and his only regret is that he did not do more damage. Like Gendron and Tarrant, he wore extensive gear, including a bulletproof vest and helmet with a video camera in a failed attempt to live stream the attack. (28) Manshaus was inspired by Tarrant's mosque attack as well as Crusius' mass Walmart shooting. Just hours before the attack, Manshaus posted on Endchan, referring to Tarrant as a "saint." "Well cobbers [friends] it's my time, I was elected by [Christchurch mosque attacker] saint Tarrant after all. We can't let this go on." (29)

INFLUENCERS OF BOTH GENDRON AND TARRANT

Name: Anders Breivik
Attack Location: Oslo and Utoya, Norway
Type of Location: Highway/Road and Summer Camp
Target: Muslims and Racial Minorities
Date: July 22, 2011
Weapon(s): ANFO explosives, semi-automatic 5.56 caliber Ruger Mini-14 rifle, and a 9 millimeter Glock pistol (30)
Injured: 60
Casualties: 77
Social Media Used Indicating Attack: Youtube and Email
Important Writings, Tactics, and Beliefs: Tarrant stated his true attack influence came from Knight Justiciar Breivik, also known as Anders Breivik, who was very anti-immigration, antisemitic, and hated multiculturalism. (31) Breivik is a Norwegian terrorist whose attacks were thoroughly planned, evidenced by his disguising as a police officer. He had published a manifesto/book titled 2083: A European Declaration of Independence to over 1000 emails just 90 minutes before his attack. The manifesto/book discussed how he had planned the attack for two years, the same time Tarrant prepared for his. It is also the same time frame from the start of Gendrons' radicalization (2020) until his attack (2022). In his manifesto, Gendron briefly states that Breivik is one of the individuals he also looked up to.

Name: Dylann Roof
Attack Location: Charleston, South Carolina, USA
Type of Location: Place of Worship - Church
Target: People of Color
Date: June 17, 2015
Weapon(s): .45-caliber Glock pistol (32)
Injured: 1
Casualties: 9
Social Media Used Indicating Attack: Personal website created under the name, The Last Rhodesian

Important Writings, Tactics, and Beliefs: Roof had become radicalized through a Google search, that led him to form increasingly radicalized views as time went on. The specific phrase that started this was a Google search on “black on white crime,” which led him to the Council of Conservative Citizens website. (33) This site posted all the instances of what Roof refers to as “brutal black on white murders.” (34) He then expanded his animosity toward other groups besides African-Americans, including Jews, Hispanics, and East Asians. Roof published his manifesto on his website, The Last Rhodesian, which details his hatred for minorities.

Name: Anton Lundin Pettersson
Attack Location: Trollhättan, Sweden
Type of Location: School
Target: Minorities
Date: October 22, 2015
Weapon(s): Sword
Injured: 0
Casualties: 4 (Including Perpetrator)
Social Media Used Indicating Attack: Unknown
Important Writings, Tactics, and Beliefs: Pettersson targeted the Trollhättan school due to its large minority population. He wore a Darth Vader mask and allegedly is said to have shouted “I am your father” as he conducted his attack. When authorities searched his online history, they found images and films that encouraged racism, Nazism, and anti-Muslim sentiment. He also made racist jokes on many internet forums, which were not specified. (35)

Name: Darren Osborne
Attack Location: Finsbury Park, London, England
Type of Location: Highway/Road, Mosque
Target: Muslim Community
Date: June 19, 2017
Weapon(s): Vehicle
Injured: 9
Casualties: 1
Social Media Used Indicating Attack: Unknown

Important Writings, Beliefs, and Tactics: It is important to note Osborne was radicalized very quickly, around three weeks before he attacked. He became surrounded by online anti-Muslim and far-right propaganda, particularly from other far-right sympathizers like Tommy Robinson and Britain First. He drove a rental van into a crowd of Muslims near the mosque and is believed to have conducted reconnaissance beforehand. Authorities say Osborne was vulnerable to radicalization, labeling him as an "alcoholic, suicidal, unemployed loner." (36) These are all important indicators of someone more susceptible to online propaganda and extremism.

Name: Luca Traini
Attack Location: Macerata, Italy
Type of Location: Highway/Road - Drive-by Shooting
Target: People of Color
Date: February 3, 2018
Weapon(s): Firearm - Type Unknown
Injured: 6
Casualties: None
Social Media Used Indicating Attack: Unknown
Important Writings, Tactics, and Beliefs: Luca Traini, an Italian nationalist who shot six African-Americans in a drive-by-shooting campaign over two hours in February 2018. (37) Like Tarrant, Gendron, and other individuals they were inspired by, Traini is extremely anti-immigration and ran as a candidate for the anti-immigrant Northern League in 2019, which views migrants as causing crime and disease. (38) Traini, like Gendron, was not always this radicalized. According to an acquaintance, "He was constantly looking for a community and he found it in the extreme right, which seduced him." (39) Additionally, Traini's residence contained Nazi literature and symbols of white supremacy. (40)

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MANIFESTOS' SIMILARITIES AND DIFFERENCES

MANIFESTOS' SIMILARITIES AND DIFFERENCES

Similarities and differences can be found when comparing Tarrant and Gendron's manifestos. Gendron copied the majority of the "Q&A" section responses from Tarrant's manifesto. The shooters share the motives behind their attacks and how their shootings were carried out. When analyzing the differences, although both shooters utilized firearms to carry out the attacks, they slightly disagree with why they chose these weapons. Also, Tarrant has less radical ideals than Gendron, who considers himself a neo-nazi and an anti-semite.

When analyzing why both shooters carried out their attacks, both believe they are taking a partisan action against an occupying force and base their ideas on the Great Replacement Theory. While Tarrant calls the occupying force "invaders," Gendron calls them "replacers," the definition is the same. In the end, there is a common belief in a superior race, the white race, which they believe is being replaced by ethnic and racial minorities (the occupying force). Tarrant and Gendron refer to themselves as anti-immigrant and racist, yet both agree with diversity and state they are not against other cultures and foreigners as long as they stay off the "white's" land. The manifestos state their targets include foreigners who choose to "invade their lands, live on their soil, live on government support and attack and replace their people." Gendron and Tarrant argue they must "ensure the existence of their people and a future of white children." (41) Both shooters consider themselves descendants of ethnic Europeans and believe replacers/invaders are threatening European culture. In the end, the anti-ethnic and cultural replacement beliefs are the motives behind both shootings.

Tarrant and Gendrons' manifestos act as guides while also establishing motives behind the shootings, which can serve as inspiration for future attackers. Gendron nearly copied Tarrant's, as large amounts overlap in the same sections, and some of Grendon's manifesto is exactly the same as Tarrant's. However, Gendron's manifesto is longer and has a large section dedicated to firearms, where he establishes which weapons are better to use in -

each situation. In their manifestos, both use links and statistics when talking about birth rates, the population in cities, and firearms, which gives the impression they have researched the topics to support their ideology and encourage others through these statistics. Both state they were radicalized by this information on the internet. The planning of both shootings took place on encrypted websites, such as /8Kun, previously called 8chan, where high levels of radicalization were present, increasing the exposure of extremist views and contact with other radical partisans. Tarrant and Gendron have some of the same influencers, including Anders Breivik, Dylann Roof, Anton Lundin Pettersson, and Darren Osbourne.

The authors differ in their self-classification as Gendron showcases further radicalized beliefs. While Tarrant and Gendron classify themselves as racist, fascist, intolerant, not conservative, and not homophobes, they disagree on neo-nazism, antisemitism, and Christian belief. Unlike Gendron, Tarrant claims he does not support neo-nazism, nor is he against Jews. Additionally, Gendron mentions he is against transgenderism and states he's not a Christian.

The main difference between the two manifestos is the use of firearms and why they were chosen. Both shooters used firearms to perpetrate the attack and discuss the impact on social discourse and extra media coverage that comes with utilizing firearms. However, the reason why they are using firearms and no other weapons is contrasting. Gendron says he will use guns "because they work and there are very few weapons that are easier to use and more effective at killing than firearms." (42) He also admits that he has already thought "the changes to gun laws that will be pushed will all help my case." (43) Tarrant, in his manifesto, states he could have used any other weapon as he had the means to afford others. (44)

Another key difference is the targeted communities focused on by each manifesto. Although both shooters choose "replacers/invaders" as targets, Tarrant focused on the Muslim community while Gendron mainly targeted people of color. Tarrant and Gendron support targeting public figures they believe are traitors, such as Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan, the former mayor of London Sadiq Khan, and former German chancellor Angela Merkel, thus all possible targets. These leaders are considered enemies of European nations for

both Tarrant and Gendron since they consider them to have damaged them by allowing the European cleanse of its people caused by massive migration. Another difference is whether each shooter would feel remorse after the attack. Tarrant states he won't feel remorse after the attack, wishing he could have killed more people. (45) However, Gendron admits to the fact that there may be some remorse by stating that "if I were to guess, it would be yes." (46)

Ideologies and pre-attack radicalization differed between Gendron and Tarrant. Gendron's manifesto includes lengthened sections targeting Jews and opinions on East Asians, Arabs, Turks, and whites. Tarrant mentions he was taught violence and extremism by video games, online articles, video recruitment, propaganda, spreading images, and manifestos, whereas Gendron says video games didn't influence him. The increase in mass shootings will largely result from radical online content, as those with distinct left or right, racist, or white supremacist views seek out platforms or discussions between others with similar views.

Even though Tarrant's manifesto was used as a starting point for Gendron's manifesto, ideas and sections were edited and added. Key differences between these manifestos lie in the sections regarding targeting Jews, as Gendron views himself as antisemite and neo-nazi. As previously mentioned, Gendron cites Tarrant as the person who radicalized him the most, especially after watching Tarrant's live stream. Gendron is more detailed than Tarrant about his targets throughout the manifesto. Where there are multiple similarities between these two shooters' manifestos, there are also numerous differences, both of which will very likely influence and guide future attacks.

THE COUNTERTERRORISM GROUP.

MANIFESTOS' THEMATIC ANALYSIS

MANIFESTOS' THEMATIC ANALYSIS

Analysis of the key themes, sentiments, and words utilized in manifestos produced by individuals who conduct attacks is beneficial for law enforcement and security services. Examining manifestos enables organizations to gain an insight into those carrying out attacks and supports our understanding of why violent incidents occur. Such an understanding can prevent attacks by identifying warning signs, such as the language of concern, and lead to early interventions.

Examination of the manifestos written by Tarrant and Gendron revealed similar themes, which is not surprising as Gendron cites Tarrant as a source of inspiration. The four themes found within the manifestos are a sense of failure, a sense of no control and emergency, a sense of in-group and out-group, or us versus them mentality, and the sense of grandiose, the greater good, and leadership. The writing style and focus vary between the manifestos, indicating their differing aims. An example is the length of each manifesto, as Gendron's is noticeably longer, with more detail and discussion throughout, indicating his focus on informing the reader of his motives and aims, inspiring them to enact their own attacks and support their plans through research discussions. In contrast, the shorter manifesto of Tarrant indicates his focus on informing the reader of his aims and motives and likely inspiring others. Despite Tarrant and Gendron indicating they do not wish to be leaders, their writing suggests they hope to influence others, notably Gendron's thorough discussion of tactics and equipment.

Another example of the difference between the manifestos is the writing style utilized in each manifesto, such as Tarrant demonstrating an emotive or theatrical writing style, predominantly using language devices including repetition, rhetorical questions, and sharing poems. The use of such devices works to engage the reader and encourages them to consider the writing more deeply, for example, by answering the rhetorical questions, likely in an attempt to persuade the reader to agree. The use of emotive

language and words that might shock the reader, such as “pedophile” and “genocide,” creates a reaction from the reader and encourages them to continue reading. The repetition creates tension and, when used in conjunction with emotive language, very likely creates a reaction within the reader.

The tension built forms two of the themes identified in the analysis, the sense of failure, and the sense of no control. These themes likely work to inform the reader that there is an emergency that must be responded to. The sentiment of failure is created through the use of such words, “failing to create families,” as well as broader language such as “trivialized, pulped, and blended” to indicate any hopes of success are diminished. The later quote also creates the sentiment of emergency by indicating that actions must be taken immediately to remedy the current circumstances. Similarly, Tarrant uses words such as “spiraling,” “invasion,” “pouring,” “crisis,” “disaster,” and “assault,” to create a sense of emergency in their writing. It is likely Tarrant utilized such language to evoke an emotional response from the reader and inspire them to support efforts to remedy what is being viewed as an emergency situation.

The two other themes identified in this analysis likely work to take the reader's awareness of the situation and inspire them to act, likely plan an attack themselves, and who to target. One theme is the sense of us versus them and in-group versus out-group mentality, created through words such as “invaders,” “foreign invaders,” “they,” and “foreign enemy force,” often when referring to anyone who they do not consider as European, to form the sense of the other. This likely works to take the reader's awareness of the situation and target their emotions at anyone they consider to be the other. The final theme is the sense of the greater good and leading. Despite Tarrant indicating they do not wish to be viewed as a leader, they utilize phrases that indicate they are aiming to inspire others to act, “make your plans, get training, form alliances, get equipped and then act,” “strong men are needed to fix it,” and “we shall wage our war.” This final sentiment likely works to encourage the reader to take action and create their own plans to ‘fix’ the situation.

One way Tarrant and Gendron assert leadership is evidence of research, which suggests to the reader they have thoroughly examined the information available and may now be considered almost an expert on

topics relating to The Great Replacement Theory. The impression of expertise implies to a reader that the manifesto is truthful and accurate. Tarrant's use of statistics early in their manifesto suggests the following information should also be believed. Similarly, Gendron utilizes and presents research throughout their manifesto, but to a greater degree. Both writers detail their belief that emotions are more powerful than statistics. However, both writers employ both methods in their manifestos. Early in their manifesto, Gendron begins to present research and utilizes graphs, and later on, a more in-depth presentation of research occurs. The years of publication for the research presented range from 2002 to 2020, with several in 2013 - in contrast to first impressions, a large portion of the research presented would be considered out of data for scientific research, notably genetic research, and would not be considered reliable in the scientific field. The summary sentences in the manifesto that accompany the presentation of research links may not accurately summarize the research findings, but if the reader does not follow the link and critically evaluate the information themselves, this misinformation will likely be believed.

Gendron presented similar themes to Tarrant, with sentiments of failure, emergency, in-group and out-group, the greater good, and leading. Similar to Tarrant, Gendron's themes of failure and emergency likely aim to create an emotional reaction in the reader, inspiring them to act. These themes are created through language such as "failing," "it is futile," "no core beliefs, no purpose and no vision for the future," "invasion," "assault," "doomed," "genocide" and "crisis." Despite these themes being present in both manifestos, the primary themes in Gendron's writing is the sense of us versus them which is created through the word "replacers," as well as "outsiders," "foreigners," our people," "themselves," and "the invaders." Similar to Tarrant, such language creates the idea of the other. In the context of this manifesto and its aim, it is likely this language works to encourage those reading and those planning an attack on who to target. The sense of the greater good and leading is created throughout Gendron's manifesto, indicated by the length of the manifesto and depth of the discussions, such as the weapons section detailing each element of their kit and the best and worst elements of each item. The language utilized also creates this theme,

such as “serve my community,” “make plans, get training,” “I call for our unification,” “strong men are needed to fix it,” and “show them the way forward.” The use of such language and the depth of discussions likely aim to inspire the reader to conduct their own attack, and support their planning process.

THE COUNTERTERRORISM GROUP.

GENERAL IMPLICATIONS AND ANALYSIS

GENERAL IMPLICATIONS AND ANALYSIS

In both manifestos, but especially in Tarrant's, it states that a civil war will eventually divide the US along political, cultural, and racial lines. (47) Some of the reasons for initiating a civil war include arms confiscation and the need to fight replacement fertility levels caused by high fertility rates of immigrants and low fertility rates of whites. (48) Attackers inspired by Gendron and Tarrant are likely to incite civil uprisings and armed clashes to "stop the falling birthrates," which will likely lead to more gun violence and attacks on minority individuals and groups in the US. The racist conspiracy theories and keywords mentioned in the manifestos, such as "invaders," "white genocide," and "mass immigration," will likely encourage continued attacks and hostile actions against minorities. In Tarrant's manifesto, one can find questions such as "why won't somebody do something?" among others. These phrases almost certainly seek to incite action by other radicalized individuals to take a stand against "white genocide" and any potential threat to the white race. Other extremists will likely use the rhetoric that white people want to carry out a revolution to protect their race from invaders, which will likely lead to a bulk of the population opting to join these extremist organizations.

Considering that the attackers have urged other radicalized individuals to commit shootings, future attacks will likely occur in places with large concentrations of people, such as religious centers, shopping malls, stores, and schools. Attackers will likely target neighborhoods with a large percentage of minorities. For example, Gendron's manifesto mentions that he chose Buffalo, New York to commit the shooting because of the percentage of African-Americans living there. (49) Non-white people of all nationalities and races in white-majority cities, states, and countries will likely be targeted in upcoming attacks. Some future attacks will likely occur at synagogues and mosques, while an attack targeting Christian churches is less likely, as some shooters, like Tarrant, are not anti-Christian.

Sites such as The American Futurist have recently posted about the death of Movementarianism.

According to this theory, white supremacist groups, like the Patriot Front and Proud Boys, need to do something more effective than just protest or have “peaceful movement organizations,” and instead, they should “Make it Count.” (50) The belief is that the political system is targeting groups, such as the Patriot Front, to show they are doing something against the rise in white nationalist terrorism in America. It is very likely that this belief is being created among radical individuals and groups that feel they will be targeted regardless, then they should do something big to disrupt the system and ensure meaningful action. Similar to Tarrant and Gendron's desire to start a revolution, the Patriot Front is making similar claims and has hinted toward a possible civil war they want to take place in the US.

With episodes of violence against minority communities likely to continue, some minority individuals and households will likely seek to defend themselves, likely purchasing firearms for protection. Some sectors of minority groups will likely organize and arm themselves to fight back against the aggressors, escalating the levels of violence in the US. There is roughly even a chance that members of minority groups will carry out shootings in - places with large concentrations of white people in retaliation for the attacks committed by Tarrant, Gendron, and other white supremacist shooters.

The attackers' manifestos and videos are likely to be disseminated through websites such as 4chan or apps such as Telegram, like the glorification of mass shootings through digital media is likely to incite other radicalized individuals to commit similar acts and spread their ideologies. The live streaming of these attacks facilitates the dissemination of extremist content and propaganda, almost certainly encouraging other attacks. Spreading far-right propaganda about declining birth rates in white-majority countries, white genocide, and false statistics about other races is likely to radicalize other individuals reading the manifestos and getting this information on the internet. Warning signs of attack plans are often on telegram channels or 4chan "boards" with channels such as "day of action," which idolize mass shooters. Future attackers will very likely continue to do the same and spread their ideologies and manifestos (if they write one) through these online platforms. Extremist propaganda is also likely disseminated through other virtual spaces, such as video games.

Violent video games and virtual communities built around these games will likely influence future attackers, as was the case with Tarrant.

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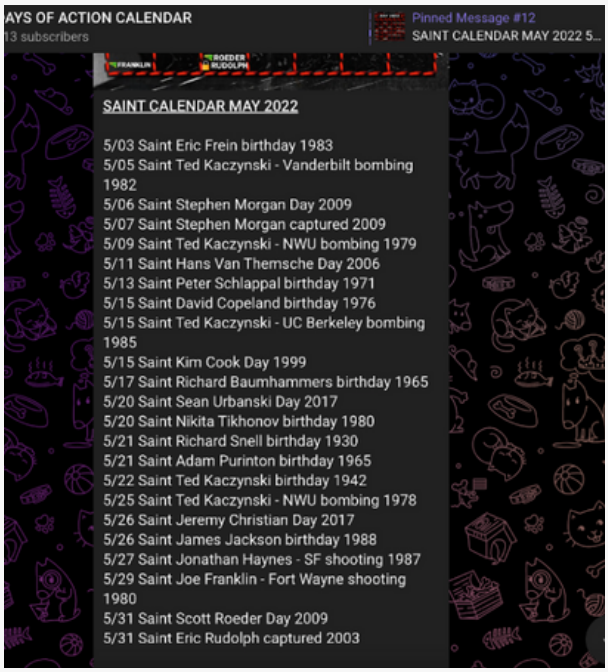
COPYCAT EFFECT

COPYCAT EFFECT

With access to Tarrant's manifesto, Gendron copied and pasted direct pages to his own. Although Gendron wrote many additional pages, his manifesto expresses his overarching agreement with Tarrant's answers as to why he is committing his attack and therefore answers a majority of the questions exactly as Tarrant did. Both manifestos are written to serve as a guide to inspire others, spread messages to a wider audience, and encourage others to act. Individuals or groups of people who idolize Gendron's terrorist attack have turned his manifesto into an audiobook and uploaded it for others to listen to. These are different individuals with the same mindset and agenda, copycats that provide instructions to the next shooter. This is being heavily pushed in the hate rooms of private channels such as Telegram.

They have made the Buffalo Shooter Payton Gendron into a saint on the "Days of Action" Telegram channel that idolizes mass shooters. Videos are being posted of various shootings and other types of killings. This activity is increasing on these private channels and serves as inspiration for other attacks.


AYS OF ACTION CALENDAR
13 subscribers
Pinned Message #12
SAINT CALENDAR MAY 2022 5...
SAINT CALENDAR MAY 2022
5/03 Saint Eric Frein birthday 1983
5/05 Saint Ted Kaczynski - Vanderbilt bombing 1982
5/06 Saint Stephen Morgan Day 2009
5/07 Saint Stephen Morgan captured 2009
5/09 Saint Ted Kaczynski - NWU bombing 1979
5/11 Saint Hans Van Themsche Day 2006
5/13 Saint Peter Schlappal birthday 1971
5/15 Saint David Copeland birthday 1976
5/15 Saint Ted Kaczynski - UC Berkeley bombing 1985
5/15 Saint Kim Cook Day 1999
5/17 Saint Richard Baumhammers birthday 1965
5/20 Saint Sean Urbanski Day 2017
5/20 Saint Nikita Tikhonov birthday 1980
5/21 Saint Richard Snell birthday 1930
5/21 Saint Adam Purinton birthday 1965
5/22 Saint Ted Kaczynski birthday 1942
5/25 Saint Ted Kaczynski - NWU bombing 1978
5/26 Saint Jeremy Christian Day 2017
5/26 Saint James Jackson birthday 1988
5/27 Saint Jonathan Haynes - SF shooting 1987
5/29 Saint Joe Franklin - Fort Wayne shooting 1980
5/31 Saint Scott Roeder Day 2009
5/31 Saint Eric Rudolph captured 2003

DAYS OF ACTION CHANNEL (52)

GENDRON MANIFESTO AUDIOBOOK (51)

Violent events are often covered by news and media outlets in great detail. Experts believe this media coverage can inspire others to copy these actions or commit similar crimes. The American Psychological Association points out that this **"fame"** is a significant component inspiring most mass shooters. (53) This demonstrates the current threat landscape regarding mass shootings, which is almost certain to increase due to unmonitored and encrypted messaging platforms. (54) Although most research indicates that media attention is the main cause for copycat shooters, Tarrant's manifesto justifies his action differently:

- Did you carry out the attack for fame?

Tarrant:

"No, carrying out an attack for fame would be laughable. After all, who can remember the name of the attackers in the September 11 attack in New York? How about the attack on the pentagon? The attackers in the plane that crashed into the field on the same day? I will be forgotten quickly. Which I do not mind. After all, I am a private and mostly introverted person. But the aftershock from my actions will ripple for years to come, driving political and social discourse, creating the atmosphere of fear and change that is required." (55)

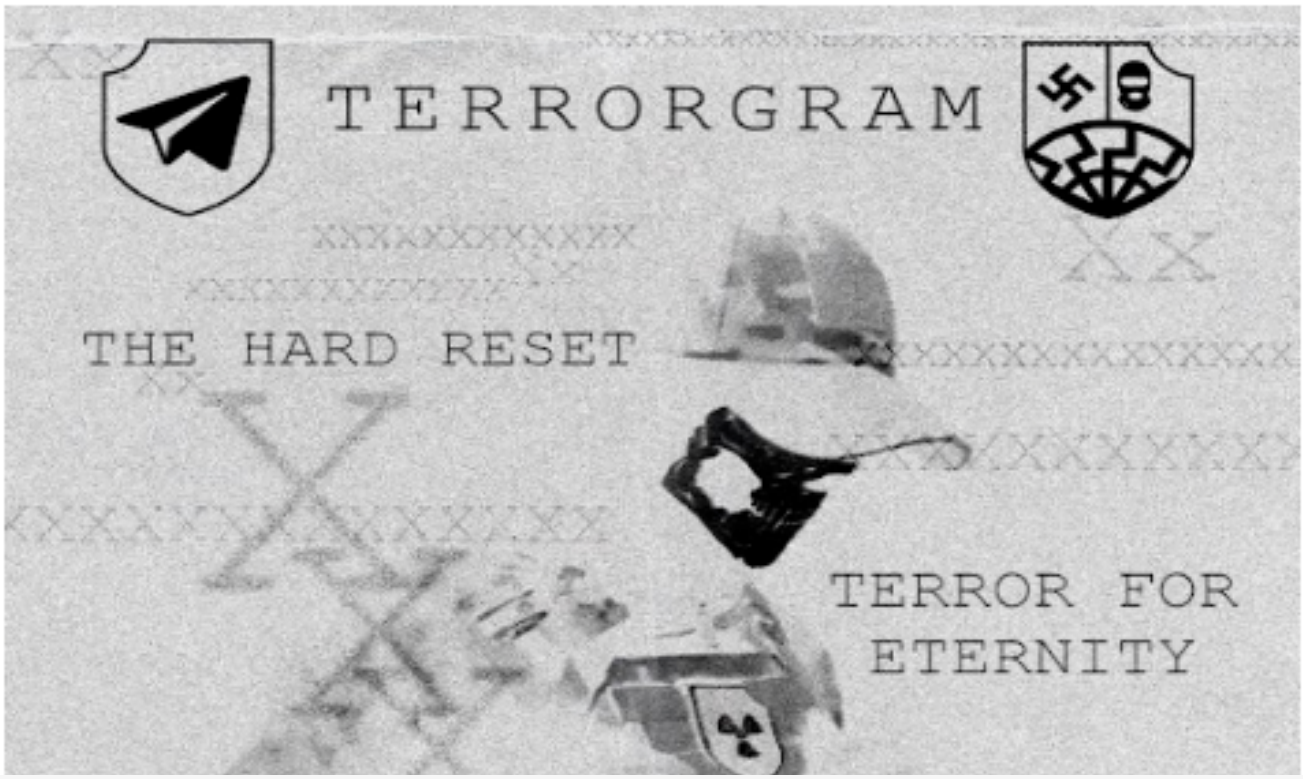
Gendron:

"I carried this attack out so I can influence others into defending themselves from the replacers, becoming infamous was the only way." (56)

HARD RESET TERRORGRAM AD (57)

Manuals, much like manifestos, are seen on private channels such as Telegram to spread messages about committing or encouraging mass shootings. The Hard Reset manual pictured above includes a 1-minute video showing previous mass shooters such as Brenton Tarrant and Adam Lanza. (58) Based on CTG's findings, this is a Terrorgram Publication that is set to be released on 07/14/2022. In the video, the date is pictured in front of a swastika symbol widely recognized for its appropriation by the Nazi Party and by neo-Nazis. Words and sentences such as "Kill Kill Kill," "imagine the havoc you could wreak with ammo...," and "I prefer to think of myself as an exterminator rather than a murderer.

Calling me a "murderer" would imply that I view my targets as human - I don't." (59) This type of rhetoric mirrors that of Gendron in his manifesto. This sentiment is not uncommon but instead is being seen on an increasing basis in channels such as Telegram. Users in these private chatrooms make several statements praising the recent attacks on children and minorities, re-posting images of the perpetrators and their weapons. This group's threat level is High as there have been additional ads and violent videos depicting live-stream footage of previous shootings.



THE MOST RECENT AD POSTED AS OF 06/20/2022 (60)

GAMIFICATION

As defined by Gamify, Gamification "is the application of game-design elements and game principles in non-game contexts. It can also be defined as a set of activities and processes to solve problems using or applying game elements' characteristics." (61) When it comes to an understanding of the many areas in which individuals can utilize platforms to copy how previous shooters prepared for their attack, gamified experiences must be analyzed. According to the Global Network on Extremism & Technology, attacks such as the Christchurch attack committed by Tarrant are gamified in nature and facilitate behavioral change and motivation by individuals who idolize mass shooters such as Tarrant and Gendron. (62) There is also a "top-down" approach to gamification where extremist networks or individuals can use the gamification platform to recruit, disseminate propaganda, and encourage engagement by those individuals following along. (63) Through the gamified experience, individuals can practice and strategize beforehand a plan of action to better prepare for an upcoming attack. Copycat attackers are likely inspired to take action on these types of platforms as the realistic nature of gamification can serve as a way to take fantasy-like ideas and help turn them into a reality. Gamification can also create a sense of community for those playing with other like-minded individuals. This alone can be used as a tool to radicalize individuals and their beliefs.

The anonymous nature of these networks allows content to be widespread and disseminated instantly, almost certainly making it difficult to prevent the spread of content related to mass shootings. When an attack occurs, it is covered by news outlets and spread through mass social media. Individuals or groups with similar beliefs will likely seek to gather as much information from this attack as possible to use as an example. Individuals seeking to perpetrate similar shootings will very likely be motivated by the media coverage, particularly by the associated attention and with the shooter's message. With the shooter's manifesto found online alongside Tarrant's, it is very likely

copycat attacks will occur in the future from other radicalized individuals. Copycat attacks will very likely follow a similar strategy by targeting minority communities and using similar weapons. Specifically, the shooter's manifesto encourages making plans, training, forming alliances, getting well equipped, and then acting through violent attacks, very likely inspiring those with similar ideologies to act out.

THE COUNTERTERRORISM GROUP.

WEAPONS ANALYSIS

SUMMARY

With the right high-capacity magazine, a shooter can inflict the maximum amount of damage to his victims. To purchase a handgun in the US, one has to be 21 years old. Handguns are associated with crimes and are viewed largely as weapons. However, one only needs to be 18 years of age in most states to purchase a long gun. Long guns are largely associated with hunting rifles used in rural areas for hunting purposes. AR-15s are considered long guns and are designed for people with military training, not hunting. (64)

Tarrant was issued a New Zealand gun license in November 2017 and began to purchase items through firearm retail outlets and online retailers. (65) Tarrant specifically purchased high-powered firearms, telescopic sights, military-grade sighting systems, over 7,000 rounds of ammunition, military ballistic armor, and tactical vests. (66) Modifications were made to the triggers of several rifles to enable the shooter to fire them with increased speed, almost certainly with the aim of increasing casualties. (67)

Tarrant utilized six firearms in his attack, specifically two semi-automatic rifles, two shotguns, a lever-action rifle, and a bolt-action rifle. (68) In the live stream video of the attack, the firearms could be seen in either the passenger seat or the trunk, alongside two rigged gasoline tanks. (69) Four of the weapons Tarrant had for this attack were purchased from a Gun City retailer and went through a police-verified online mail-order process. (70) The six firearms carried and utilized in the attack are as follows: (71)

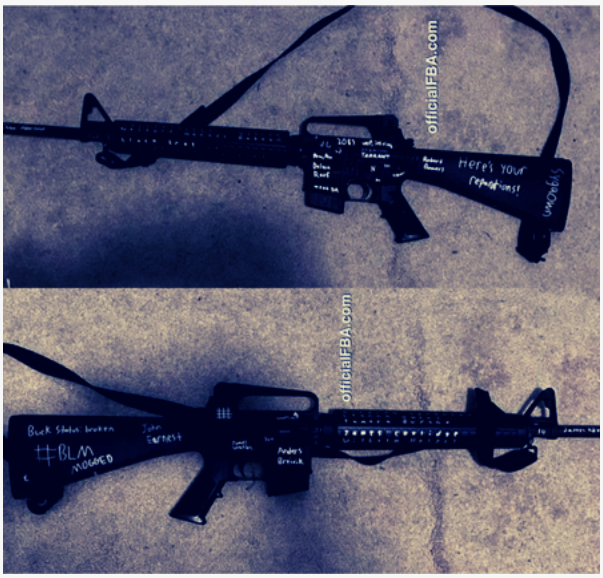
- Mossberg 930 semi-automatic 12 gauge shotgun with at least a seven-shot magazine capacity to hold one more shell in the breech (end of the barrel attached to the action). The firearm was fitted with a Bushnell “red dot” sign and contained nine 00 Buckshot shells. This firearm was carried by hand into the first mosque.
- Windham Weaponry 223 caliber MSSA rifle fitted with a cylindrical magazine containing 60 rounds. The sighting system on the rifle was a Sight mark Holographic sight. This firearm was over his shoulder when he entered the Al Noor Mosque.
- Ruger AR-15 223 caliber MSSA rifle fitted with two large 40-round magazines. The sighting system on the rifle was VTX Strikefire "red dot" sight. This firearm was used at the first and second mosque after the Windham Weaponry was empty.
- Ranger 870 pump action 12 gauge shotgun with a five-shot capacity. The magazine contained four 00 Buckshot shells with a fifth in the breech. This weapon was not used in the attack.
- Uberti 357 Magnum lever-action rifle with a tubular magazine that can hold 13 rounds of 357 magnum ammunition (12 in the magazine and one in the breech). This weapon was not used in the attack.
- Mossberg Predator bolt action 223 caliber fitted with a 30-round magazine. This weapon was not used in the attack.

Tarrant’s firearms and ammunition magazines were engraved with white supremacist and neo-nazi messages. These messages referenced dates of key attacks and battles, the names of previous shooters, numerical figures, and symbols commonly associated with supporters of the nazi party and antisemitic ideology. Specifically, Tarrant referenced an Italian national, Luca Traini, who injured six African migrants in 2018, and a Canadian national, Alexandre Bissonnette, who shot and killed six people in a mosque in 2017. (72)

Gendron utilized three firearms to perpetuate the Buffalo shooting, specifically semi-automatic rifles, a Bushmaster XM-15, a Mossberg 500, and a Savage Axis XP.

Both shooters covered their firearms in messages which were very likely intended to spread the message of white supremacism, to have more media coverage, and to remember the source of inspiration for their attacks. Gendron included Tarrant's name on his main firearm, the Bushmaster XM-15, almost certainly because he was an inspiration for Gendron.

The referenced photo bellow depicts the Bushmaster rifle used in the Buffalo shooting. The words "Here's your reparations," "Tarrant," "Anders Brevik," and "Dylan Roof" are all written with some sort of permanent white pen. This is highly indicative that Gendron was infatuated with these past mass shooters with notoriety and their belief systems, which are identical in some instances and different in others.



GENDRON'S BUSHMASTER XM-15 COVERED WITH WHITE SUPREMACIST MESSAGES (77)

Why did you choose to use firearms?

Tarrant:

"I could have chosen any weapons or means. A TATP filled rental van. Household flour, a method of dispersion and an ignition source. A ball peen hammer and a wooden shield. Gas, fire, vehicular attacks, plane attacks, any means were available. I had the will and I had the resources. I chose firearms for the effect it would have on social discourse, the extra media coverage they would provide and the effect it could have on the politics of the United States and thereby the political situation of the world." (78)

Gendron:

"Because they work, there are very few weapons that are easier to use and more effective at killing than firearms, especially the Bushmaster XM-15 I will be using. The effect it would have on social discourse, the extra media coverage they would provide, and the changes to gun laws that will be pushed will all help my case." (79)

BUSHMASTER XM-15 USED BY GENDRON (73)

MOSSBERG 500 USED BY GENDRON (74)

SAVAGE AXIS XP USED BY GENDRON (75)

TARRANT'S MAGAZINES COVERED WITH WHITE SUPREMACIST MESSAGES (76)

ILLEGAL MODIFICATION OF FIREARMS AND LOOPHOLES TO GUN LEGISLATION

The main firearm utilized by Gendron in the Buffalo shooting was the Bushmaster XM-15 which he bought in Endicott, New York, in a firearms shop called Vintage Firearms. (80) Since he lived in NY, Gendron had to buy a cucked version of this firearm before illegally modifying it. (81) In the manifesto, he details all the modifications made to the Bushmaster XM-15 and suggests better options.

Furthermore, the manifesto summarizes NY gun legislation and bans on firearms, including for gun parts, and loopholes in the legislation such as flea markets, gun shows, and the internet. This section will very likely serve as a guide for future shooters on how to work around state legislation and how best to modify their firearms.

BUSHMASTER XM-15 USED BY GENDRON (73)

SUMMARY OF THE MODIFICATIONS DONE BY GENDRON (82)

GUN PART	USED	RECOMMENDED
MUZZLE	UNTHREADED FLAT MUZZLE	ANY NON-THREADED MUZZLE TO BE ABLE TO ATTACH OTHER DEVICES
BARREL	BUSHMASTER 20" HEAVY BARREL, 1/9 TWIST WITH FORGED FRONT SIGHT POST	SHORTER BARREL SINCE HE WILL BE SHOOTING INDOORS, FOR EXAMPLE, DANIEL DEFENSE 11.5 BARREL
HANDGUARD	RIFLE LENGTH M16A2 TYPE HANDGUARD	PICATINNY/1913 HANDGUARD
WEAPON LIGHT	NO WEAPON LIGHT USED	M-LOK OR PICATINNY HANDGUARD THAT CAN ATTACH LIGHTS SUCH AS ARISAKA/MODLITE 18650 SERIES
CHARGING HANDLE	AR-15/M16 CHARGING HANDLE	ANY STANDARD AR CHARGING HANDLE, AS THEY CAN BE MANIPULATED
UPPER AND LOWER PARTS	BASIC BUSHMASTER UPPER AND LOWER PARTS, PLUS AN ANDERSON MANUFACTURING MAGAZINE RELEASE AND SPRING	PALMETTO STATE ARMORY M4A1 STRIPPED LOWER, AND BROWNELLS BRN-15 M4 STRIPPED UPPER. ANY UPPER/LOWER PARTS KITS ARE ALSO RECOMMENDED
TRIGGER	SIX OR SEVEN POUNDS BUSHMASTER TRIGGER	SIX TO EIGHT IB MIL-SPEC TRIGGERS ARE FINE IN MOST SITUATIONS. MOST LOWER PARTS KITS COME WITH DECENT MIL-SPEC TRIGGERS
BOLT	BUSHMASTER BOLT	A HEAVIER BOLT CARRIER GROUP (BCG) INCREASES RELIABILITY. FULL AUTO-STYLE BCGS ARE PREFERRED TO SEMI-AUTOMATIC BCGS.
MAGAZINE	EIGHT USGI ALUMINUM 30-ROUND MAGAZINES, WITH REPLACED SPRINGS.	SURPLUS MILITARY MAGAZINES FROM COLT, OKAY INDUSTRIES, D&H...
GRIP	A2 STYLE GRIP	TRY PISTOL GRIPS IN PERSON AND SEE WHICH ONE FITS YOU THE BEST
STOCK	A2 STOCK	COLLAPSIBLE STOCK, I.E., BASIC MAGPUL STOCK.
RIFLE BUFFER SYSTEM	A2 RIFLE BUFFER SYSTEM	AERO PRECISION ENHANCED CARBINE BUFFER KIT
AMMO	ONE MAGAZINE OF 20 ROUNDS OF SALT LAKE CITY M855 62 GR MADE IN 2017 ON TOP, WITH 10 ROUNDS OF WINCHESTER 55 GR FMJ MADE IN 2013 ON BOTTOM SESEVEN MAGAZINES OF 5.56X45 WINCHESTER 55 GR FMJ MADE IN 2013, WITH 10 PPU AND 20 HORNADY 5.56 X 45 55 GR FMJ IN THE LAST MAGAZINE.	EACH BARREL HAS SPECIFIC AMMO TO FUNCTION PROPERLY.

INTRODUCTION TO THE NEW YORK STATE GUN LEGISLATION (82)

According to the research conducted by Everytown Research and Policy, the state of New York's gun law strength score is 78%. New York holds the third position in the rank for gun law strength and has the fifth-lowest rate of gun violence and gun ownership. According to Everytown Research and Policy, there is a gun violence rate of 5.3 deaths per 100,000 residents. New York has secure foundational laws and is the first state in the United States to ratify gun industry liability legislation. Specifically, this holds gun manufacturers and deals accountable for any dangerous practices in their business.

NEW YORK'S KEY GUN LAW POLICIES CHECKLIST: (83)

- Foundational Laws: 5/5 laws met in this area. All foundational gun laws are passed in New York. All firearms purchases and point-of-sales require background checks and permits.
- Gun industry and product safety: 4/6 laws met in this area. Consumer safety, such as childproofing features and microstamping technology for new handguns, are the two policies in this section that are not within New York gun law policies. Otherwise, assault weapons are prohibited, ghost guns are regulated and cannot be sold without serial numbers or a background check, high-capacity magazines are prohibited, and special immunity for the gun industry is not permitted.
- Guns in public: 6/8 laws met in this area. Policies not within New York gun law legislation include blockage of guns at state capitol grounds or political protests, along with blockage of concealed carry of guns in bars. New York public gun law legislation policies include officials' ability to deny public carry for public safety, officials' requirement to trace all guns recovered at crime scenes, and no concealed carry allowed after violent offenses like assault or violent misdemeanor convictions. More specific guns in public laws include no guns mandated on college campuses or K-12 schools by staff or other permit holders and regulation of how guns can be carried in public with a necessary permit or barring of open carry altogether.
- Keeping guns out of the wrong hands: 13/14 laws met in this area. All gun law policies are met in this key policy area, other than the requirement for threat assessment programs to identify students at risk of violence. Emergency restraining orders, felonies, fugitives from justice, hate crimes, mental health, and stalker prohibitions are in place.

The gun removal program requires officials to seek the removal of illegal guns, with a minimum purchase age for handgun buyers to be 21 years old and older and shotgun buyers to be 18 years old and older. Convinced domestic abusers, people with assault or violent misdemeanor convictions, are banned from gun purchases, having guns while subject to restraining orders, and must turn in guns after a conviction or when a restraining order is in place.

- Policing and civil rights: 5/8 laws met in this area. Three policing and civil rights laws not included are funding for services for victims of gun violence, police use of deadly force standard, and qualified immunity limited. Local gun laws are allowed, law enforcement officers are held accountable for excessive force or other misconduct, a gun violence prevention and intervention office is in place, New York state budget for violence intervention programming, and police use of force incident data collection and reporting is in place.
- Sales and permitting: 6/9 laws met in this area. No training is required to purchase guns, and no waiting periods are in place that require gun buyers to wait before completing a purchase.

Included in this area's laws are the authority to deny gun purchase for public safety, the Charleston loophole closed or limited while a background check is ongoing, dealer license requirement, lost and stolen gun reporting, and sales records are required to be sent to officials. Overall, 39 out of 50 key gun law policies are met by the state of New York.

LOOPHOLES

Some of the gun parts bought by Gendron are illegal in his home state of New York, and for others who have the same problem, he recommends acquiring gun parts and firearms at flea markets or gun shows. (84) Some flea markets Gendron suggests buying in are P and J's flea market in Binghamton, NY, and Jimays flea market in Conklin, NY. (85) In flea markets and gun shows, one can obtain cheaper gun parts, consequently, the cost of modifying a gun decreases considerably.

LOOPHOLE ONE: FLEA MARKETS AND GUN SHOWS

During the 1980s and 1990s, people began selling firearms through newspaper advertisements and at flea markets. As this became more popular, flea markets adapted into gun shows and created a loophole in gun legislation. (86)

At flea markets, private sellers can avoid restrictions implemented by federal laws through off-site firearm deals. The loophole of selling guns at flea markets remains prominent since guns can be sold with no background checks as required of official retail routes. The selling of firearms at a flea market is not legal, however, those with a Federal Firearms License (FFL) may display guns at a flea market and take orders for firearms to be purchased later. (87) However, this rule is not well-enforced. Unlicensed individuals selling firearms at flea markets are also not properly regulated as they are not subject to many firearm retail laws and allow individuals who are prohibited from owning guns to acquire them quickly and without documentation. As a result of the lack of regulation and enforcement at flea markets, people who may not pass background checks, such as felons, mentally ill, or people with a history of violence, can illegally purchase firearms.

Similar to flea markets, gun shows are not regulated by law in most states and allow unlicensed private individuals and official firearms retailers to trade and sell firearms without background checks or maintaining sale records.

According to the Federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives (ATF), the United States is estimated to hold 5,000 gun shows annually. (88) Large traders and buyers attend gun shows, with estimates reaching tens of thousands of attendees. The loophole in gun shows can be found due to fewer restrictions for selling and trading firearms by private individuals at gun shows in certain states. This loophole is being combated by legislation requiring all gun transactions at these shows to occur through FFL dealers, but this has yet to pass. (89)

The ATF estimates that licensed dealers, who are required to conduct background checks, sell 75% of the weapons purchased at gun shows. (90) While New York requires background checks at the point of sale, even from unlicensed sellers, Pennsylvania only requires background checks for handguns. (91)

In the United States, 33 states do not currently have laws regulating firearms sales between private individuals at gun shows. (92) Another loophole found at gun shows is that those prohibited from purchasing a firearm are very likely to recruit someone who can pass a background check to purchase a firearm.

The loopholes found in gun shows will very likely continue to be a threat to the public, as criminals have the potential to acquire guns without documentation or sufficient background checks.

Major gun shows in the United States are held in Texas, Oklahoma, Nevada, Arizona, Pennsylvania, Virginia, Florida, Massachusetts, Georgia, New York, and Kentucky. (93) Links for gun shows can be found by state, some for New York and Pennsylvania that Gendron may have attended include:

- Gun Show Trader - NY
- iGunShows
- Gunshows USA - NY
- Northeast Gun Shows
- Gun Show Trader - PA
- Eagles Shows
- Gunshows USA - PA

Those seeking firearms through illicit means will very likely continue to travel long distances for gun shows and flea markets to avoid states with strict legislation and avoid background checks. Guns retrieved from these venues have a roughly even chance of being used in future shootings because their history will be more challenging to track down if there is no record of sales.

Guns obtained without records or background checks at gun shows and flea markets may also be used in violent scenarios besides mass shootings, such as in transnational crime organizations, trafficking groups, domestic violence disputes, and revenge schemes. Criminals and those with prohibiting factors mentioned in “keeping guns out of the wrong hands” gun laws very likely seek out weapons sales from flea markets and gun shows to maintain some level of anonymity and secrecy from authority.

LOOPHOLE TWO: THE INTERNET

The vast majority of legal gun parts are bought online at multiple gun websites and enterprises. A list of the websites named in Gendron’s manifesto is featured below: (94)

- Mcarbo
- Sprinco
- Magpul Industries
- Winchester Ammunition
- Mossberg
- Daniel Defense
- White Oak Armament
- Wilson Combat
- LaRue Tactical
- Ballistic Advantage
- Criterion Barrels
- Faxon Firearms
- Bravo Company MFG
- Geissele Automatics

- Noveske
- Midwest Industries
- Knight's Armament
- Son's of Liberty Gun Works
- Black Rain Ordnance
- Colt
- CMMG
- Radian Weapons
- JP Rifles
- V Seven Weapon Systems
- Primary Weapons Systems
- Vltor
- TRIARC Systems
- Centurion Arms
- Windham Weaponry
- Anderson Manufacturing
- ArmaLite
- Spike's Tactical

Sources indicate that Gendron received online advice about the equipment he wore on the day of the shooting through a Discord chat server called "Plate Land." (95) In the server chat, Gendron wrote about the ammunition he purchased and the camouflaged plate carrier he acquired. (96) Gendron sought advice from group members by asking questions such as, "How many non-penetrating bullets as 9x19s does it take to get through a level 4 ceramic bulletproof vest?" and "Would an M2 Alternative 30-06 M2 be better at penetrating armor than a regular M2 Ball? [...] I'm referring to the M2 Alternative I bought the other day at a gun shop." (97) He also uploaded photos of the products he purchased. (98) Additionally, the shooter mentioned that he visited online gun communities frequently, such as the /k/ and /pol/ sections of the 4chan website. (99)

The information related to tactical equipment and ammunition obtained by Gendron through Discord illustrates that it is very likely other potential shooters use online gun communities to receive advice on what weaponry and equipment to use. The use of anonymous names by users of such platforms likely makes it difficult to identify individuals who are likely to commit mass shootings. Several people with advanced knowledge of weaponry, equipment, ammunition, and bulletproofing likely visit these websites frequently and give advice anonymously, which could lead to them indirectly advising other mass shooters.

DIFFERENCES IN GUN LEGISLATION ACROSS THE US

One of the recurrent tactics to acquire guns are traveling to states with less strict legislation. Payton S. Gendron lived in New York, one of the US states with stricter gun legislation. For that, he traveled to the neighboring state of Pennsylvania to buy the Mossberg 500, the second firearm used in the Buffalo shooting. (100) This section will analyze the implications of shooters traveling to other states to acquire firearms and the obtention of firearms or gun parts from citizens living in less strict gun legislation states, who buy the weapons for the shooters and send them to their respective states.

INTRODUCTION TO GUN LEGISLATION IN PENNSYLVANIA (101)

According to the research conducted by Everytown Research and Policy, the state of Pennsylvania's gun law strength score is 39.5%. Pennsylvania holds the fifteenth position in the rank for gun law strength, is the highest-ranked state lacking foundational gun laws, and holds a gun violence rate of 13.6 deaths to 100,000 residents.

Pennsylvania is making progress in enacting significant gun safety laws, with weaknesses in legislature attempting to pass laws to undermine gun safety. Cities and towns in Pennsylvania cannot implement local ordinances to curb gun violence.

PENNSYLVANIA'S KEY GUN LAW POLICIES CHECKLIST: (102)

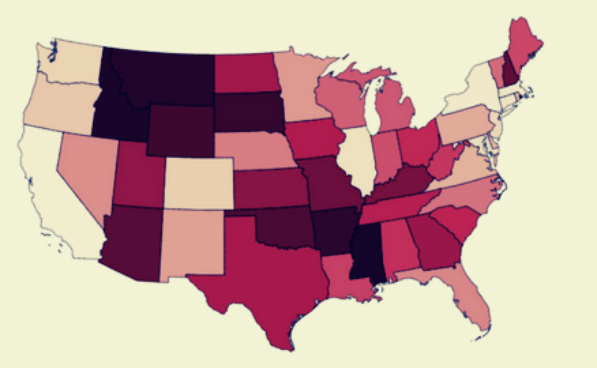
- Foundational Laws: 2/5 of laws met in this area. Background checks and purchase permits are required for handguns only at the point of sale, and concealed carry permits are required. The extreme risk, no stand your ground, and secure storage required laws are not a part of Pennsylvania foundational gun laws.
- Gun industry and product safety: 0/6 laws met in this area. There are no regulations or requirements for assault weapons, childproofing features, ghost guns, high-capacity magazines, microstamping technology, or special immunity for the gun industry.

- Guns in public: 5/8 laws met in this area. Like New York, Pennsylvania has the authority to deny public carry for public safety, crime gun tracing, and no guns mandated on college campuses, state capitol buildings, or K-12 schools. Pennsylvania does not have laws for carrying after violent offenses, gun in bars restrictions, or open carry regulations.
- Keeping guns out of the wrong hands: 11/14 laws met in this area. Pennsylvania lacks emergency restraining order gun and felony prohibitions, along with not having a gun removal program in place. Prohibitions exist for fugitives from justice, hate crimes, mental health, convicted domestic abusers, restraining orders, and stalkers. Relinquishment laws are in place as well. The minimum age for handgun buyers is 21 years old, and 18 years old for rifles and shotgun owners. Unlike New York, Pennsylvania has school threat assessment teams in place.
- Policing and civil rights: 3/8 of laws met in this area. Laws in place include no law enforcement officers' bill of rights to hold law enforcement officers accountable for -
- -excessive force or other misconduct, office of violence intervention, and violence intervention program financing. Funding for services for victims of gun violence, local gun laws are not allowed, police use of deadly force standard and incident data collection or reporting is not required, and qualified immunity limited is not under Pennsylvanian gun law regulation.
- Sales and permitting: 5/9 laws met in this area. No authority allows authorities to deny gun purchase for public safety, lost and stolen reporting, training required to purchase guns, or waiting periods in this area. There are laws regarding the Charleston loophole closed or limited, dealer license requirements, mental health record reporting, notification of background checks, and sales records requirements for law enforcement.

- Overall, the state of Pennsylvania meets 26 out of 50 of the key gun law policies.

GUN LEGISLATION IN THE US BY STATE (103)

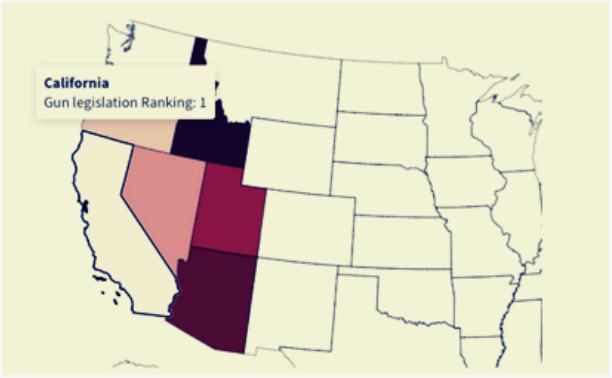
According to Everytown, the top five states with stricter gun legislation are California, Hawaii, New York, Massachusetts, and Connecticut. The states with less strict gun legislation are Wyoming, South Dakota, Arkansas, Montana, Idaho, and Mississippi. The following map compares gun legislation by state, where the dark red represents less strict and the light red strict gun legislation:



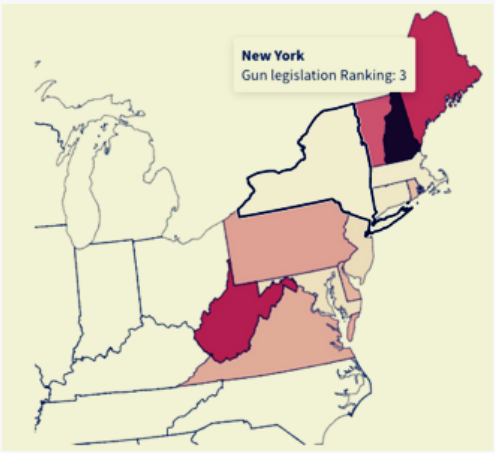
GUN LEGISLATION IN THE US BY STATE (104)

Pennsylvania is 15th in the ranking for gun law strength with a score of 39.5 according to Everytown. This means 35 states with less strict gun legislation than Pennsylvania. However, if we analyze New York State and its neighbors, Pennsylvania is one of the surrounding states with less strict gun legislation.

As seen in the regional map, Pennsylvania, Virginia, Maine, Vermont, and New Hampshire are the ones surrounding New York where acquiring guns is more accessible. Shooters living in these less strict states, such as New York, Massachusetts, Connecticut, or Maryland, will very likely travel to surrounding states with less strict guns to acquire firearms, such as the ones mentioned above. Similarly, California shooters will very likely travel to Arizona (position 43/50) or Idaho (position 49/50) to acquire gun-related products because of the less strict gun legislation in these states, as seen in the following map:



GUN LEGISLATION SURROUNDING CALIFORNIA BY STATE (106)



GUN LEGISLATION SURROUNDING NEW YORK BY STATE (105)

IMPLICATIONS OF THE DIFFERENCES IN GUN LEGISLATION ACROSS THE US

Gendron mentions in his manifesto that although most new magazines work well for his Bushmaster XM-15 E2S Target rifle, he lives in a state with strong gun regulations. (107) For that reason, Gendron says he will turn to a Pennsylvanian to buy them for him or go to a gun show to acquire them. (108)

Finally, Gendron tells his readers to beware of "glowies," a term widely used by right-wing extremists to talk about federal agents. (109) Gendron's mention of "glowies" is very likely evidence of how some extremist groups are aware that they are being monitored and that federal agents are infiltrating their organizations. Right-wing extremists will likely increase their wariness and caution in acquiring weapons and communicating with each other to avoid being caught. Members of these groups will likely invent more words similar to "glowie" to evade and confuse authorities. Gendron's advice on acquiring guns, gun parts, and ammunition in low-ban states is likely to be applied by other attackers. Purchasing weapons and items such as magazines in different states is likely to make it difficult for authorities to investigate where the weapons were acquired. Extremists are likely to make arrangements through Telegram groups or on social media to purchase weapons from each other if they live in different states.

Extremists will also likely create gun buying and selling networks in low-ban states to fund their activities and incentivize new attacks.

Other attackers will likely seek to carry out similar shootings to incentivize a stronger agenda to implement gun control measures, leading to a further fragmentation within the US society on the issue of gun control and favoring the idea of a possible civil war. If stricter gun control measures are implemented, it is likely that further shootings will occur and militias or groups will form to avoid confiscation of their weapons. A portion of the population favoring laxer gun laws will likely become radicalized through extremist propaganda, increasing the risks of escalating violence. Those with similar ideologies are likely to be motivated by the words of Gendron and Tarrant to rise and take back their land from the “invaders.” There are also likely to be clashes at protests between supporters of strict anti-gun regulations and others who do not, favoring the civil confrontation narrative pushed by extremists like Tarrant and Gendron. Future attacks will likely also be carried out with assault weapons to cause greater lethality. However, it is likely that improvised explosives and "ghost weapons" will also be used, as information on how to obtain and manufacture these types of explosives is available on the Internet.

THE USE OF RELATIVE'S FIREARMS IN SHOOTINGS

The third weapon mentioned by Gendron in his manifesto is the Savage Axis XP rifle. It is important to understand how he obtained the weapon and the use the shooter planned to make of it during the shooting. A better understanding of the access and use of weapons such as the Savage Axis XP will likely allow us to prevent future attacks and implement the necessary measures to identify individuals who may use them in shootings. This section of the document will discuss how Gendron obtained the rifle, some basic characteristics of the weapon, and possible implications of the use of hunting rifles in mass shootings.

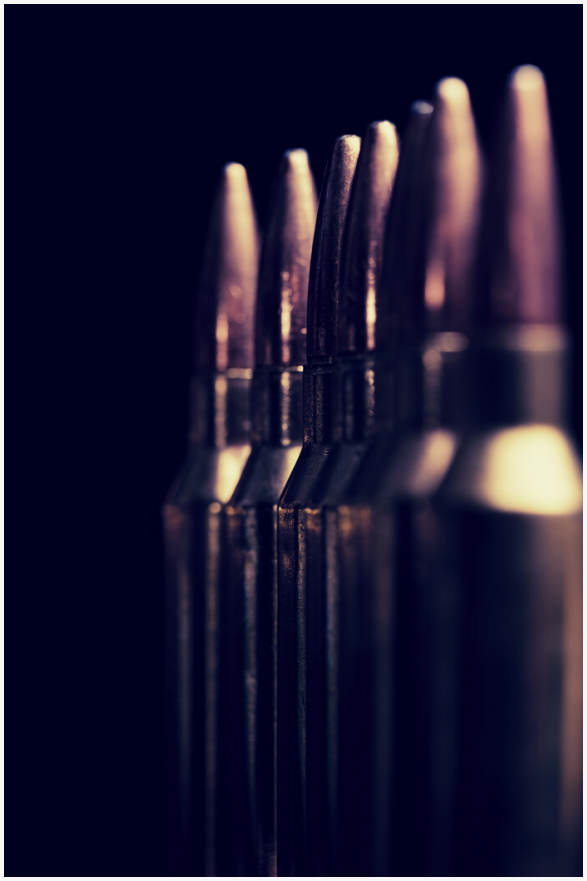
OBTENTION OF FIREARMS FROM RELATIVES

In his manifesto, Gendron mentions that he has a Savage Axis XP rifle, which was gifted to him by his dad at Christmas in 2020. (110) He notes that originally, his dad bought him the gun so he could go hunting without borrowing his cousin's guns. Some sources point out that Gendron received the gift when he was 16 years old, and according to New York state law, it is legal to possess a long gun starting at age 16. (111)

This rifle is an inexpensive gun sold in various retail sporting goods stores, such as Dick's Sporting Goods. (112) Gendron stated that the Savage Axis XP rifle was a backup in case he ran out of ammunition in his AR or shotgun and that by making his attack in a city, he wouldn't need to reach long distances with his gun. (113) Gendron carried the rifle on the day of the shooting and left it in the car next to the Mossberg 500 shotgun. Police took a photo of both guns which were painted with racist messages, as was the Bushmaster XM-15 rifle. (114)

The Savage Axis XP, which was Gendron's father's gift at age 16, likely influenced his interest in guns at an early age. The gift of guns to mentally challenged or radicalized youths likely increases the risk that they will commit shootings in the future. New York's gun laws and the ease of obtaining these weapons in retail sporting goods stores likely facilitated their acquisition, increasing the risk of such weapons being used in future shootings.

The lack of controls on hunting rifle stores will likely cause more extremist individuals to acquire the weapons. Since rifles such as the Savage Axis XP are primarily used for long-range hunting, they are unlikely to be used in shootings like the one Gendron conducted, as they are done at close range. Nevertheless, there is roughly even a chance that another shooter will opt to attack at long distances with hunting rifles, which is likely to make it difficult for authorities to identify and capture the attacker as he could execute the shooting from long distances to hide, flee quickly and avoid being identified.



MOSSBERG 500 USED BY GENDRON (74)

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RECOMMENDATIONS

COLLABORATION ACROSS GOVERNMENT AGENCIES AND INTELLIGENCE COMPANIES

The Counterterrorism Group (CTG) is a global organization focused on detecting, deterring, and defeating terrorism. CTG is intelligence-driven and has a range of capabilities and solutions to meet needs in countering threats. CTG recruits top talent worldwide, enabling it to provide global insight into current events, attacks, and potential threats/attacks in the future. There are many private intelligence organizations, like CTG, with expert intel and resources that government agencies and law enforcement can benefit from in terms of detecting and deterring potential threats of violence. According to the US Government and Accountability Office (GAO), collaboration and information sharing can help address policy development, program implementation, oversight and monitoring, communication, and building organizational capacity (e.g., better staffing and training). (115) For instance, CTG issues Flash Alert Warnings for potential threats being monitored globally. In May 2022, for the North American region, CTG issued Flash Alerts warning of the high likelihood of copycat shooters motivated by the Buffalo, NY mass shooting on May 14. Since this shooting, there have been over 80 mass shootings, as mentioned in the report analysis above. Communication and sharing of intelligence across government agencies, local law enforcement, and private intelligence companies could help mitigate threats and prevent future attacks.

CTG recommends law enforcement utilize open-source intelligence platforms and databases, like the i2 that CTG's threat hunters use. The i2 is an OSINT resource dashboard of collected OSINT of terrorist or extremist organizations and POIs. Law enforcement would greatly benefit from working on this site to monitor extremist and terrorist threats and activity, and CTG is currently working to collaborate with law enforcement to make this a reality. Warning signs of violence and attacks discovered through the i2 can be shared among users, allowing respective authorities to report and take down violent postings. For instance, in June 2022, through the i2 resources, CTG threat hunters discovered propaganda ads and videos labeled -

"The Hard Reset," and referred to as a "terrorgram" meant to recruit individuals to "kill." The account calling the event, "The Hard Reset 07/14/2022," highlights the high potential for a publication encouraging acts of terror or violent acts to occur on July 14. Collaboration allows for fewer threats like these to go unnoticed because of the increased monitoring, communication, and security efforts between intelligence and law enforcement. Sharing this kind of information among intelligence organizations with security and law enforcement is key to countering these groups before they act, thus increasing the chances of preventing a mass casualty attack.

CTG recommends law enforcement agencies constantly monitor keywords used by extremist groups and former shooters such as Tarrant and Gendron. As more manifestos appear, there will likely be similarities in the terminology, which can help determine the threat level an individual poses to law enforcement and the general public. It is also recommended to keep track of the evolution of the words, as they are constantly being modified or new ones are invented, making the work of the authorities more difficult.

The infiltration by law enforcement and government officials in Telegram extremist groups will likely enable them to increase their knowledge of the keywords used and thus prevent future attacks. Educational staff and families should also be aware of such keywords to help law enforcement see when a potential shooter is taking action. A list of keywords is included below:

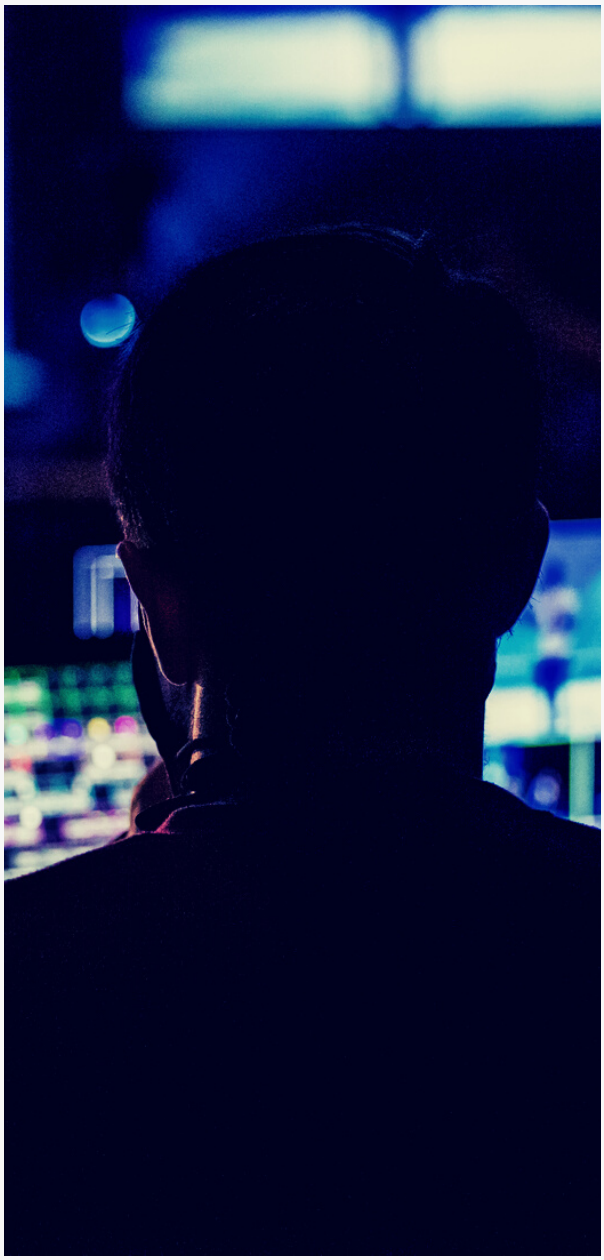
Tarrant, Gendron, replacement, the Great Replacement, white-supremacism, antisemite, white race, invaders, mass immigration, fertility levels, white genocide, 4chan, 8chan, revenge, blacklash, european, immigration rate, foreigners, western society, western culture, Ebba Akerlund, occupying force, muslim invaders, saints, white man, occupy, blacks, lands, traitors, invasion, islamophobia, fascism, intolerance, neo-nazi, partisan action, hate, race, color, religion, Latinos, Jews, glowies, Candace Owens, Patrick Crusius, Robert Bowers, John Earnest, Philip Manshaus, Luca Traini, Anders Breivik, Dylann Roof, Anton Lundin Pettersson, Darren Osborne, East Asians, Arabs, Turks, failure, crisis, disaster, assault, pouring, African-americans, Patriot Front, Proud Boys, aggressors, day of actions, Hard Reset, Black Sun, firearms, shooter, handguns, AR-15, shotguns, muzzle, barrel, handguard, charging handle, trigger, bolt, maagzine, grip, stock, ammo, flea markets, gun shows, magpul, danieldefense, la rue tactical, Mossberg, Bushmaster, winchester, mcarbo, Plateland, body armor, tourniquets.

INCREASED SURVEILLANCE IN POTENTIAL TARGETED PLACES AND REDUCING THE HATE TOWARDS MINORITY COMMUNITIES

CTG recommends law enforcement agencies increase their vigilance and capabilities to respond to attacks in locations where they are likely to occur, such as synagogues, mosques, schools, universities, parks, shopping malls and parking lots. Tools such as video cameras, panic buttons, and metal detectors are likely to be useful in deterring attackers and improving law enforcement response if an attack does occur.

CTG recommends that law enforcement agencies work with other government agencies to counter the right-wing extremist narratives that lead to attacks. It is likely that if efforts are made to debunk supremacist theories such as "the great replacement," fewer individuals will be radicalized. CTG recommends that awareness and anti-disinformation campaigns be conducted in schools, universities, community centers, and other public spaces. CTG also recommends countering online extremist propaganda on social media through the diffusion of real statistics, fact-checkers, and de-radicalization mechanisms.

It is also recommended to facilitate reporting mechanisms and psychological support for families and friends of individuals who may be being radicalized in order to prevent further attacks.



TRACKING POTENTIAL SHOOTERS' ACQUISITION OF GUN PRODUCTS

CTG recommends law enforcement agencies constantly monitor the movements of potential shooters in the US. Users of encrypted websites already showing signs of aggression and possibly taking violent action should be monitored in terms of gun-related product acquisition. It is recommended to track the websites these users are visiting to see which type of gun-related products they are acquiring since, for instance, the type of ammo they buy will give indicators that they are preparing for an attack rather than going hunting. If the users are acquiring protection tools such as body armor or tourniquets, as did Gendron, they are warning us they will be attacking since they have the chance of being injured.

It is also recommended to monitor the movements of potential shooters living in strict gun legislation states, such as New York or California. New York, Massachusetts, Connecticut, and Maryland shooters should be investigated if they have traveled to the less-strict neighboring states such as Pennsylvania, Virginia, Maine, Vermont, and New Hampshire.

Alternatively, Californian potential shooters should be tracked if they have traveled to Arizona or Idaho. CTG reiterates the overwhelming threat posed by places that do not conduct background checks on the sale of gun-related products, such as flea markets and gun shows. It is recommended that strict gun legislation states keep passing legislation restricting the sales of gun-related products in flea markets and gun shows without background checks. CTG also recommends the US government work to reach a homogeneity regarding gun legislation across the US to avoid the differences between states and reduce the chances of organizing shootings.

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